

Reprimand for captain of Fearless

From Our Correspondent
Portsmouth

Captain Roger Trussell, the commanding officer of the assault ship HMS *Fearless*, was reprimanded yesterday after being found guilty by a Portsmouth court martial of negligently allowing his ship to be hazarded, when it collided in fog with a German vessel in the Channel.

Captain Trussell, aged 43, had admitted failing to ensure that he was adequately informed of the shipping situation in restricted visibility.

Both ships were slightly damaged in the collision, off Portsea last September.

Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Yates-Johnson, the navigating officer, who had denied failing to ensure the ship's safe navigation, and Lieutenant Jonathan Lee, officer of the watch, who had denied negligently causing the accident, were both found guilty and reprimanded.

MPs act over faulty cables

The Commons Defence Committee decided yesterday to ask for a memorandum from the Ministry of Defence on the report in *The Times* that faulty cables were supplied for warships and that the Ministry was responsible for the errors.

Defective cables had to be replaced in submarines built in the 1970s. Similar defects have caused more than a year's delay in work on the seabed operations vessel Challenger, now being reassembled in the Scott Lithgow yard at Greenock.

Seven released after raid

Seven men arrested in Reading by Thames Valley and Scotland Yard detectives on Tuesday in connexion with the arms cache found at Pangbourne, Berkshire, last October were released yesterday without being charged.

The men, several of whom are understood to have Irish backgrounds, were arrested after investigations led by the Yard's anti-terrorist squad. They were held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Austin Rover alters warranty

Austin Rover has changed the terms of its six-year corrosion warranty to allow regular servicing at any garage provided the vehicle is inspected annually by a franchised dealer at a nominal charge.

Austin Rover's insistence that cars must be serviced by franchised dealers for the warranty to be valid led to representations from the Office of Fair Trading.

Six feared dead as tug sinks

Six men are feared drowned after a German tug sank in storms off Land's End on Monday night. Four others were rescued yesterday after spending 36 hours in a liferaft.

The rescued men were picked up by a French minesweeper after being spotted by an RAF Nimrod.

Search for third IRA gunfighter

From Richard Ford
Belfast

Security forces in Northern Ireland were last night hunting for a third Provisional IRA gunman who escaped after an SAS operation ended in the deaths of a soldier and two terrorists.

A second soldier from the undercover team, which had apparently been watching the house of one of the men who died, was very seriously ill in hospital with leg wounds. He was airlifted from the village of Dunloy in co Antrim soon after a fierce gun battle in which houses were hit by bullets.

An Armalite rifle, a sub-machine gun and a shotgun were found in a field near a small building development in the nationalist village. Two of the weapons were discovered by the bodies of Provisional IRA gunmen Henry Hogan, aged 21, and Declan Martin, aged 18, with the third lying some yards away indicating it had been dropped by the fleeing member of the active service unit.

The dead soldier was Sergeant Paul Oram, aged 26, who was due home in Yorkshire at the weekend to visit his wife and baby daughter.

He was a member of the 9/12th Lancers, who are not serving in the Province, but he was attached to the 8th Infantry Brigade at Londonderry. Sergeant Oram is the first soldier to be killed in the Province this year.

Local people spoke of hearing a burst of gunfire and then seeing hooded men jump from two unmarked Cortina cars, shouting in English accents: "Get the hell out of the way". The men ran in a pincer movement towards the head where further shots were heard. The two terrorists were later found dead.

Although details of what happened remain sketchy it

Lax officials blamed for costly delays at Dounreay

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Lack of government control told Sir Gordon that it had over the development of a nuclear fast reactor, which has already cost more than £1,000m and is running at least nine years behind schedule, has been strongly criticized by Sir Gordon Downey, the official comptroller and Auditor General.

A review of the fast reactor programme by the National Audit Office has revealed that the prototype at Dounreay will not reach continuous full-scale operation before next September. Work began on fast reactors in 1954.

The authority replied that "these aspects have not gone by default".

The authority has meanwhile been asked to spend a "settled down" annual budget of £70m over the next nine years, on the assumption that it will not be asked to start construction of a lead commercial fast reactor until 1993, which was initially expected to be working by 1977.

But Sir Gordon is again strongly critical, saying: "An arrangement of this kind appears to be contrary to the accepted principle that development programmes should have clearly defined objectives, stages and timescales if they are to be properly controlled and economically carried out."

Mr Gordon has reported to Parliament that the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority is directly to blame for some of the delay, which has "substantially" increased development costs, put at £1,019m to the end of last March.

But his main criticism is that neither the Department of Energy nor the authority had bothered to discover the financial consequences of the delay.

He says: "Moreover, the department did not establish criteria enabling it to assess whether the authority had secured the most efficient use of resources devoted to the programme".

The Department of Energy

Protecting humans from robots

By Craig Seton

Isaac Asimov's first law of robotics; that robots should not harm humans, is breaking down as more advanced industrial robots are introduced and Britain's Health and Safety Executive is now considering introducing guidelines for the safety of workers who maintain and programme them.

Three workers in Japan have been killed by robots since 1979, and authorities in Sweden, detected 22 accidents or near-misses involving robots and workers in a two-week period.

There appear to have been no accidents in Britain so far involving robots and humans but the executive says there is a need for safe procedures to be adopted for "proving programmes" for robots and later amendments to them.

A report by the Health and Safety Executive's general engineering industrial group, based in Birmingham, says that robots are least likely to cause an accident when in production.

About 1,500-2,000 industrial robots are in use in Britain, mostly involved in the manufacture of motor cars. Studies have shown that workers are most at risk during programming and maintenance.

The report says that teaching robots a set sequence of tasks and then replaying the sequence to check its accuracy often involves close observation. It is then that the operator may be at risk.

Growing art market role for Britain

By Huw Mallalieu

Britain's exports of fine art and antiques still outstrip imports, although the 1983 figures released by the Department of Trade show that the trade has pulled out of its recent de-

The total figure for exports is £460.6m compared with £372m for imports, but they do not reveal the whole picture. While modern paintings are included, works of art less than 100 years old do not feature and they comprise a considerable proportion of the market.

Antiques that come to Britain to be sold and then leave the country, feature in both figures.

However, on this evidence American buying of antiques and paintings in Britain has risen by 74 per cent and 12 per cent to £226.5m. Despite the increasing strength of the dollar, British imports from the United States have increased by 26 per cent and 24 per cent.

The most dramatic increase in the export market has been in Canada. It took £6.2m worth of antiques from Britain, an increase of 138 per cent on the 1982 figures.

One of the best ways of assessing picture market prices is in the sales of minor, decorative, Old Master paintings. Such a sale at Sotheby's yesterday produced a total of 2408,639 with many leading lots trouncing their estimates. A church interior dated 1629 by Dirck van Delen, sold for £22,000 against its estimate of £2,000 from £3,000 to £5,000.

Mr Benn has said that the row is not an issue in Chesterfield to

Jenkin rejects Liverpool cash plea

Department of the Environment
Margaret Street

By David Walker

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday rejected Liverpool Labour councillors' demand that their spending target be raised by £30m and recited a £400m catalogue of special measures to assist Merseyside.

He told a city council deputation that the Government was sympathetic to Liverpool's economic and social problems and had helped the area in recent years through the Urban Programme and Manpower Services Commission.

Mr Jenkin said the Labour administration had inherited a tight budget from its Liberal

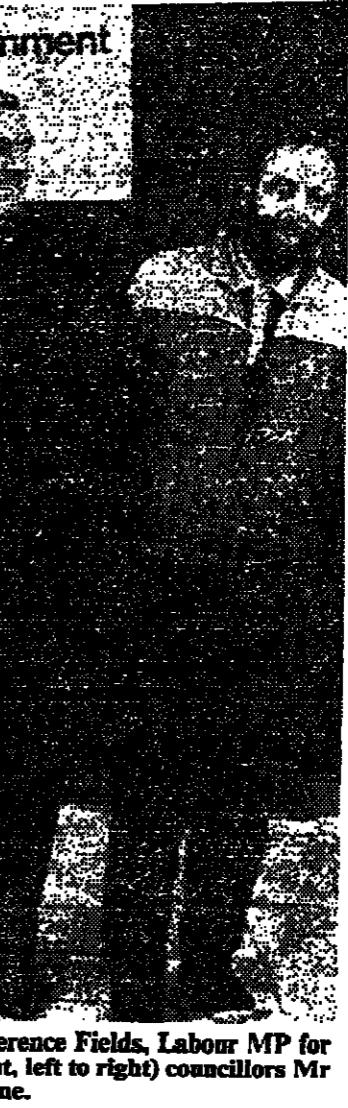
predecessors, but had since

widely increased spending. He condemned a recent council decision to pay each council tenant a £16 bonus. "Liverpool is by no means unique in facing tough political choices", he said. He had neither the power nor the intention to bend spending rules for the city.

During what the minister termed a frank discussion, Mr Derek Hatton, the deputy leader of the council, is understood to have predicted a resurgence of street riots unless more money was forthcoming.

Mr Jenkin emphasized that

a small reduction in the amount by which Liverpool is exceeding government targets would bring in extra rate support



Vain mission: The Liverpool council leader, Mr John Hamilton (with briefcase), and Mr Terence Fields, Labour MP for Liverpool, Broadgreen (with scarf), arriving at the Department of the Environment with (front, left to right) councillors Mr Tony Hood, Mr Derek Hatton, Mr Frank Mills and Mr Tony Byrne.

Jenkin rejects Liverpool cash plea

By David Walker

grant and so permit a lowering of rates.

In Liverpool, the leader of the Liberal group of councillors, Sir Trevor Jones, yesterday threatened to refer to the district auditor spending by the council on a publicity campaign against the Government. "These militants can print what they like, but they should dip into their own pockets", he said.

A bright note on Merseyside yesterday was a £100,000 gift by the National Westminster Bank to help to build an annex to a centre for training adults and stimulating new businesses.

But the consultants, a company held in high regard by the Government for its public sector accounting work, said that transferring such functions as planning, waste disposal, trading standards and road building and maintenance to the lower-tier districts could not save much unless standards were reduced.

Department criticized on college sale

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

The Scottish Education Department was criticized in a government report yesterday for taking a casual approach to the sale of Hamilton College of Education and failing to ensure that the property was marketed adequately.

Hamilton College, with 51 acres of land, was sold in 1982 for £680,000 after the district value had estimated the property might realize £6m.

The report by the Common Public Accounts Committee recommended that the Scottish Office should issue clear instructions to all departments that property sales from which the Exchequer largely benefits should maximize the selling price and incorporate all steps recommended in the report.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the leader of the Greater London Council, made his foray into the by-election hot house yesterday afternoon to find that the main campaign issue is Mr Benn. "One thing interests me, how are the media going to explain a Benn victory after telling people for 10 years that he is as odious as Ken Livingstone?" Mr Livingstone asked.

General election results: E G Verity (date 25.03.83): N. Bourne (C), J. Hamilton (L), M. P. Potts (U)

Leave, hours and grading:

Overseas selling prices:

Austria Sch 29; Belgium B Fr 50; Canada

Denmark DM 8.80; Finland Mk 8.00;

France Dr 100; Holland G 3.40; Italy

Rm 400; Italy Dr 250; Luxembourg L 1.50; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Es 100; Spain Dr 100; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Fr 3.00; UK £100.

Dollars US \$ 700; USA \$ 1.75; Yugoslavia D 100.

● The struggle the govern-

State industries top pay rise league

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Workers in nationalized industries have won the best pay rises over the past 20 years, according to a study to be published today showing rapid growth of the labour force over the next five years (Our Economics Correspondent writes).

Those in manufacturing industry have also achieved above average increases, but employees in "general government" services have fallen behind, despite a surge in 1979-80.

The study does not compare absolute pay levels, but looks at the effect of increases since 1963. By 1983, pay in both public corporations and manufacturing industry was more than 60 per cent higher, in real terms, than in 1963, while in general government it rose by only 4 per cent.

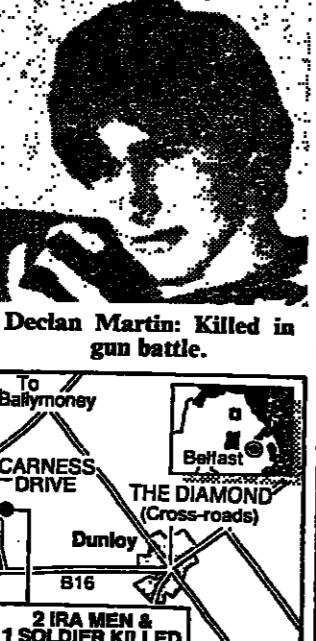
The study concludes that pay settlements in the big public corporations have a strong influence on other sectors of the economy.

● The struggle the govern-

A free guide to the cost of central heating from people who don't sell it

Name _____	Address _____

ENERGY EFFICIENCY OFFICE



To Ballymoney
CAPNESS DRIVE
THE DIAMOND (Cross-roads)
Dunloy
S16
2 IRA MEN & 1 SOLDIER KILLED
SOLDIER INJURED To Ballymena

appears that terrorists had attempted to set up an ambush and probably fired at the soldiers before being ambushed as they tried to escape across open ground. In a statement admitting that the dead men were members, the Provisional IRA alleged that it was aware that Mr Hogan's home was under surveillance.

The paper contains proposals

to tell whether the question elicited guilt or fear or anger, or had anything to do with observed physical changes. He says there is no credible scientific evidence for such tests.

Of the use of such tests at GCHQ, Dr Lykken says:

"Apar from the damage to the

careers and reputations of

innocent persons, this decision

is likely to result in the loss to

the Government of some of its

most conscientious civil ser-

vants, replacing them with un-

socialized types who easily pass polygraph tests.

This decision may well open

the door to easy penetration of

the security services."

The tests are biased against

innocent and conscientious

individuals and can be

"beaten" by sophisticated liars,

he says in a review in the

polygraphic interrogation in

today's issue of the science

magazine *Nature*.

Ten million volunteers sought to carry transplant donor cards

By Thomson Prentiss, Science Correspondent

The Government is seeking ten million volunteers who will "carry the card" and declare their willingness to have their bodies surrendered after death for use in organ transplant operations. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary for State for Social Services, announced the distribution of the donor cards yesterday.

However, Mr Fowler emphasized that there were no plans to introduce an "opt-out" system in which people would have to register their refusal to have their organs removed after they died.

The campaign launched yesterday has been prompted by the lengthening waiting lists of patients who need kidney, heart, cornea and other transplants. About two and a half thousand people now await kidney grafts, and medical advances mean that more patients are becoming suitable for the operation.

Last year, there were a record 1,160 kidney transplants and Mr Fowler said yesterday: "I want this number to double before the end of the decade."

The campaign is aimed at getting more people to sign the cards and to discuss their decision with their families so that, in the event of sudden death, relatives can be asked to confirm permission for the removal of organs and speed the process.

The cards, which are the size

of credit cards, have been available in their present form since 1981. The holder is able to specify which organs can be removed by deleting any of those listed—kidneys, eyes, heart, liver and pancreas, or can request that "any part of my body be used for the treatment of others".

The holder's signature and the name and telephone number of a relative is required.

About five thousand kidney patients are being treated with dialysis equipment, about half of whom could receive transplants. Transplants cost the National Health Service about £6,000 in the first year and £1,700 annually thereafter, while the cost of treatment on a kidney machine is up to £15,000 a year.

At any time, about twenty patients nationally are waiting for heart transplant. There have been 152 such operations in Britain since 1979 and 91 of the patients are still alive. About two thousand corneal grafts and twenty-five liver transplants are performed each year, as well as a few pancreas grafts.

Although the campaign is directed principally towards the public, Mr Fowler acknowledged yesterday that many hospital doctors and medical staff in intensive care units are reluctant to take action on organ removal after a patient has died. Some have difficulty

in being able to ask permission to change their attitudes to contain in a new leaflet being distributed to hospitals by the Department of Health and Social Security.

"It is often the doctors who find it hard, in the event of a patient dying from his injuries, to change track and have to think about the possible use of their kidneys of other organs for somebody else", the leaflet says, "but everyone should be aware of this possibility".

Mr Fowler resisted pressure yesterday to introduce an "opt-out" system in which individuals would have to record their unwillingness to have their organs removed after death. The proposed system, which exists in France, would allow transplant surgeons to consult a computerized register. If the individual's name was not there, permission would be deemed to have been given.

"I am keeping an open mind on the possibility, but it would require legislation and even then there would be considerable problems", Mr Fowler said. "We will review the progress and success of this campaign before considering the question again."

Mr Fowler also announced yesterday that a further £1m was to be distributed to health authorities for renal services.



Honorary consultation: Mr Graham Greene in London yesterday.

Greene joins in booklist 'joke'

By Bryan Appleyard

The novelist Mr Graham Greene has attacked fellow writer, who is 79, seldom leaves his home in the south of France. In his speech he furthered the marketing effort by, first of all, taking on Mr Burgess who has produced a rival list of 99 titles.

Mr Greene was speaking at luncheon in the City of London to launch the Book Marketing Council's promotion The Best Novels.

The council has produced a list of 13 novels selected by Elizabeth Jane Howard, Sir Peter Parker and Dr Richard Hoggart.

Persuading Mr Greene to join in the promotion was a coup for the council as the

simply as some of his favourite authors not included on the BNC list. It ran as follows:

- 1 Flann O'Brien: *The Third Policeman*
- 2 Henry Green: *Loving*
- 3 Mervyn Lowry: *Under the Volcano*
- 4 Muriel Spark: *Momento Mori*
- 5 R. K. Narayan: *Tiger of Malgudi*
- 6 Brian Moore: *The Great Victorian Collection*
- 7 V. S. Naipaul: *A House for Mr Biswas*
- 8 J. G. Ballard: *The Disaster Area*
- 9 Beryl Bainbridge: *The Bottle Factory Outing*
- 10 Patrick Hamilton: *The West Pier*

Mr Greene referred to the last as the best ever novel about Brighton, thus modestly downgrading his own *Brighton Rock*.

Food trade may face discounts inquiry

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Office of Fair Trading is preparing for a large-scale investigation into the price discounts big supermarket chains get from manufacturers.

No final decision has been made to go ahead with the investigation, but some preliminary inquiries have been made and there have been complaints from food manufacturers. Smaller independent retailers have also protested that while they do not enjoy such low prices they are the only place many elderly, disabled and poor people can shop.

The food manufacturers say that the buying muscle of the big multiple grocers is squeezing their profit margins to such an extent that research into new products is threatened.

The Office of Fair Trading has been watching the grocery trade for nearly three years, since the Monopolies and Mergers Commission decided, against legislation to stop the practice of discriminatory discounts: that is discounts over and above those that reflect lower costs associated with the large-volume buyer.

The commission report said that such discounts generally resulted in lower prices for the customer.

Since then, the big multiples' share of the grocery market has grown and Sainsbury, Tesco

Disbelief at diet to fix a baby's sex

By Tony Samstag

British doctors and scientists yesterday greeted with a mixture of mirth and alarm the claim that women can choose the sex of their children by following one of two diets.

According to a book by Dr Francois Papa, a French gynaecologist, a diet high in potassium and sodium will favour the conception of a boy, while calcium magnesium a girl.

He could act against a single big company under the Competition Act, but so far there has not been evidence to justify an investigation. It is believed food manufacturers have been unwilling to come forward with evidence for fear of antagonizing multiple grocers.

Sir Gordon has offered to take evidence in confidence because, while not providing the material for direct investigation under the Act, it could help to direct his inquiries.

A decision is expected soon on whether to launch a large-scale survey. That could lead to a second reference of the whole issue to the Monopolies Commission.

Disquiet about discounting has already focused attention on recent proposed mergers in retail grocery.

New car for Galicia

A new British sports racing car, the Olympic Kellygirl, was unveiled in London yesterday.

It is powered by a new version 350bhp turbocharged Ford racing engine and was completed this week at Branksome Hatch, by Mr Nick Challis, head of Olympic Refrigeration, and Mr Jackie Epstein, a racing engineer.

It will be driven by Divina Galicia (right), the former British women's Olympic ski captain, in the 1984 Thunder series of endurance races.

The Olympic Kellygirl makes its debut at Oulton Park, Cheshire, on Good Friday.

Miss Galicia was the British women's Olympic ski captain in 1968 and 1972. She took up a professional motor racing career in 1975 and broke five British speed records (Photograph: John Voos)

Action to double number of Highland skiers

By Ronald Farn

A strategy to double the number of skiers Highland slopes can handle was published yesterday by the Scottish Development Department.

The guidelines, which try to bring together the conflicting views of skiers, mountaineers, conservationists and developers, allow for a 50 per cent expansion of facilities at Cairn Gorm, Glen-shee, Glencoe and the Lecht and development of secondary areas at Drumochter near the A9; Aonach Mhor near Fort William; A Chailleach, near Newtonmore; and Ben Wyvis, north of Inverness.

The report decided against development of Braeriach, Beinn A'Bhuird and Craig Meagaidh because of the strong environmental constraints and high cost.

Warning on insurance jargon

By Vivien Goldsmith

The insurance ombudsman, Mr James Haswell, has advised against the use of jargon on insurance forms. Everyday words such as "cover" or "accidental" are used by insurance companies in their technical sense and give rise to confusion because they do not convey the correct meaning to the public.

"The public are very quick to pick up jargon and use it. All too frequently they do not understand it", he said, introducing his report for 1983.

"There is still widespread belief that 'covered' means 'covered against loss or damage due to any and every eventuality, unless specifically excluded by the policy terms'."

Standard household policies do not necessarily cover every item in the household. Mr Haswell said that if home computer owners use their computers to make money, by selling software programmes or doing work for small businesses, they may have to insure the computer under a commercial policy.

● You do not expect your insurers to pay for your worn out clothes; why ask them to pay for your worn out roof?

● It is unwise to follow advice given by a builder, surveyor or garage-handyman on whether you have a valid claim under your insurance policy.

He advises insurance companies:

● Make sure your motor policyholder really wants to claim indemnity under the third party liability section of his policy before you settle a minor claim against him and affect his no-claims discount, particularly if a knock-for-knock agreement is involved.

● When talking or writing to a policyholder, think whether the words you use mean the same to him as to you. If in doubt, explain.

● If you can sense difficulty ahead, send the most senior official you can spare to sort things out with the policyholder. When done early enough this can save time, money and wasted effort.

For 1984 you'll find improved interior trim and a stereo cassette player on most Stanzas; headlamp washers, a stereo cassette player on the Cherry SGL hatchbacks, and tilt-adjust steering on most Sunnys.

If you buy any one of the Nissan range—including the executive saloons, sports cars and the go anywhere four-wheel drives—before February 29th, you have the choice of 2 low-cost finance schemes. So, for example, you can drive away a Micra L for just £21.68 per week.

And we'll give you an exceptional warranty on the whole range which will cover you for up to 100,000 miles.*

The 1984 Nissans are arriving at your Nissan/Datsun dealer now. Call in and see him this week to get a great deal on a great car.



Yard 'could have halted £3m raid'

The theft of at least £3m from London bank might have been prevented by Scotland Yard's flying squad, a central Criminal Court judge said yesterday.

Judge Alan Hazan QC, called on Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, to carry out an urgent review of CID procedures.

The judge said he was concerned that although a former policeman had informed Scotland Yard about a gang's plan to burgle a branch of Lloyds Bank in London, "little or nothing appeared to have been done".

If police had acted on the information with surveillance and undercover work, the raid on Lloyds at Holborn Circus, in July 1982, might have been avoided.

The court was told that Mr Alan Tolmie, reported to the police and his employers, Chubb's, the security company that he had been offered £10,000 to provide a gang with details of sophisticated alarm systems.

The judge's comments came as he dealt with six men for offences arising out of the burglary.

Reverend Canon, aged 40, a driver of a Land Rover; Mrs Hughes, aged 47, a restauranteur; Roy Hughes, aged 47, a restauranteur; Roy James, aged 32, a publican; of Chakilah, aged 27; David Green, aged 10 years; Bryan Patterson, aged 40, director of Lettsen Court, Twickenham, 8 years; Michael Gossage, aged 26, company director of Mount Pleasant Road, aged 26, a car salesman and former Chubb's employee; and Kirkland Wall, Hackney, 6

Youth tells of meeting art student

A youth aged 18 accused of murdering Miss Susan Renhard told a jury at Nottingham crown court yesterday that he thought the girl was stunned when he left her lying on the ground.

Norman Smith of Sunside Villas, Castleton, Derbyshire, said he met Miss Renhard, an art student, aged 21, while walking in Derbyshire's Peak District, on June 27 last year.

Miss Renhard, of West Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, was found partly stripped and strangled.

Mr Smith, who denies murder, said they began talking. "I moved closer, perhaps for a kiss or something. She must have stumbled because she went backwards and because I had my hand on her shoulder I went over as well. She ended up on her back and I was on top of her." Mr Smith said he removed her trousers on impulse.

"She still had not moved and I heard a funny sound. I thought it was her breathing. I had not thought there was anything wrong, but obviously she did not seem to be right. I got scared," he said.

Mr Smith said he tied her wrists with a camera strap and put her cagoule over her eyes "because her eyes were looking towards where I was going."

The case continues today.

Koestler chair agreed

By Kenneth Gosling

Edinburgh University has been selected by the executors and trustees of the Koestler estate for the foundation of a chair in parapsychology, the first in Britain, according to instructions left in the will of Arthur Koestler, the Hungarian born writer.

Mr Koestler was found dead

don, last March. A suicide verdict was later recorded on the couple who died from an overdose of barbiturates and alcohol.

The Koesters left more than £50,000 to endow the chair, which will be advertised extensively both here and in the United States. There is a similar chair at Utrecht in Holland.

Book review, page 15

NISSAN'S UNIQUE PERFORMANCE FIGURES.

67.3 MPG

MICRA GL 5-SPEED

0-60 IN 8 SECS*

CHERRY TURBO

100,000 MILES

WARRANTY* ON ALL NISSAN CARS

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Minimum Deposit (20%)	755.00	(33.3%) 1258.00
Finance Charges	362.56	100.68
Monthly payments of	93.96	109.07
AVERAGE WEEKLY COST	21.68	25.17
Total Credit Price	4147.56	3885.68
CUSTOMER SAVING	588.60	427.92

compared to typical 10.5% interest rate (A.P.R. 20.6% - 21.1%).

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PARLIAMENT February 22 1984

Commentary

Bringing Russia into talks on Lebanon

MIDDLE EAST

When it was suggested that talks between the Soviet Union and the United States in a conference on the Middle East at which Britain and other countries participated, would be held in the right direction, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in the Commons that he was not persuaded such a conference would be appropriate at this stage.

It was, however, he added, a subject which he had raised with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in Stockholm.

The Foreign Secretary was questioned at length on the situation in the Lebanon and in the Gulf with MPs pointing to the need for the Soviet Union to be brought into talks. Sir Geoffrey Howe said there were likely to be informal consultations at the United Nations later in the day (Wednesday) on the basis of a French draft resolution. It would, however, be unacceptable if the Soviet Union asked for the removal of all US ships from the area.

He also added that if the situation in the Gulf required any further movement of a significant kind there, they would need to acquaint the Soviet Union of the position.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said that fighting continued between the Lebanese armed forces and the Druze militia in the Chouf Mountains. In Beirut, the ceasefire was generally holding but the situation remained tense.

If further bloodshed is to be avoided (the said) the Lebanese people must make further efforts to settle their differences by negotiation. We shall do all we can to help.

Mr Neil Thorpe (Ilford, South C) said the abrogation of the treaty between Lebanon and Israel of May 17, 1983, was to the comfort of Syria. This was bad, considering that one of the main hopes for those living in the area must be the support of the

only democracy in that part of the world - Israel.

Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that he appreciated there were different views on the May 17 agreement.

It contains the important principle (he said) of full Israeli withdrawal. Whatever one's view of it, it should not become an obstacle to progress on the important issues.

There can be no objection to alternative arrangements which have the agreement of all parties and which must cater for the security of Israel's northern border.

Our position has been (he continued) to support all steps towards promoting discussion between the parties, with a view to a solution based on the principles that we have enunciated - the plain recognition of Israel's legitimate existence and need for security, and the plain recognition of the entitlement of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

On talks with the Russians, I am not persuade that a conference of the kind Mr Weetech suggests would be appropriate at this stage but it was a subject I raised with Mr Gromyko in Stockholm a few weeks ago.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, L) said it was possible there would be renewed pressure on Palestinians in Palestinian refugee camps, particularly Chatila and Shatila, after the withdrawal of Israel.

This might be an issue that Sir Geoffrey Howe might raise with his United Nations counterparts.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: This is one reason it would help if there could be a larger role visualized for a UN force. It has been put forward previously of this kind.

The difficulty is that such a force must essentially be a peacekeeping and not a peace-creating one. It may be possible to secure an increase in the mandate.

Mr Kenneth Weetech (Ipswich, Lab): What does he make of the heavy movement of Israeli armour and personnel as reported in *The Times* today, together with the extensive Israeli air attacks on Muslim positions?

Does he also agree that as Syria and Israel are essentially client states of super powers, it would be

possible to secure an increase in the mandate?

Talks between the Soviet Union and the United States in a

conference in which we and other countries take part would be a step in the right direction.

Sir Geoffrey Howe agreed that it would be desirable if the settlement in Lebanon could be set in the framework of progress towards more widespread agreement, but that serves to increase rather than diminish the nature of the problem.

They are entitled to be concerned about the security of their northern frontier (he added) but it must be remembered that the objective of the May 17 agreement was to secure withdrawal of Israeli troops.

That can be brought about only if there is a willingness on both sides to promote progress in that direction. That means willingness by Syria.

It might be that a closer involvement of the two super powers could help in promoting that process. That is why I raised the matter in my talks with Mr Gromyko. Mr Shultz did the same. But I remain to be convinced of the case for a wider conference.

Mr Denis Healey (Northampton, North, C): Will he condemn the bombing of the Lebanese citizens by Israel who always claim they are bombing Palestinian terrorists?

These are propagandist untruths. Will he confirm that he would not accept a quid pro quo under the domination of Israel in southern Lebanon.

Mr Ian Mikardo (Browne and Poplar, Lab) asked if the Foreign Secretary would visit Israel soon.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: When I met Prime Minister Shamir in Brussels on Monday we agreed that I should visit Israel at the first mutually convenient date.

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Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDF): Will he use his persuasion to stress that the Palestinians have the same right as the Israelis to a free and independent homeland?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: One of the central principles is that Palestinian self-determination has to be regarded as essential in any negotiated settlement.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C): So long as the United Kingdom is involved, it is unrealistic to expect the Soviet Union to remain aloof. Since the failure of US policy in the Lebanon, it is not essential to involve the Soviet Union in Middle Eastern affairs.

Will he be more forthcoming when MPs on both sides are trying to put to him the view that European countries might be in a position to facilitate peace between Israel and her neighbours?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The countries of Europe do have a distinctive position and contribution to make.

We are certainly anxious to follow the lines I have suggested. This is a subject which it is essential to discuss with the Soviet Union.

Mr Peter Blaikie (Blackpool, South, C): Is there any question of increasing our resources for the EEC unless there has been satisfaction on effective control of agricultural and other expenditure and equitable financing. Sir Geoffrey Howe: Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, in answering Commons questions on Community matters, said he was ready to make decisive progress in solving the Community's problems at the March meeting of the European Council.

Acknowledging the suspension of future UK payments to the EEC if the promised 1983 rebate was not forthcoming, he said the Government expected to receive the bulk of the refunds by the end of March. If this did not happen, it would have to take steps to safeguard its position.

If the Foreign Secretary can fly to Paris and back, we should surely look after our citizens there? Will he give a clear assurance that we shall be demanding compensation from the French Government for people who have lost cargoes and may suffer bankruptcy or have extra costs as a result of the incidents?

Can we give us a firm assurance, not bland generalizations?

Mr Rikford: Has made his usual constructive and practical suggestions (Laughter). He has indicated to the House that his claims are correct, what he has been doing through the media.

The last comments on the media were from him, making the same wild accusations without substantial evidence to back them up and he must allow me some doubts about the credibility of his case.

If he had listened to me earlier, he would not have had to ask about the question of compensation. That is exactly what has been done already.

That indicates the value of his interest in these matters. I have indicated and repeated that we have already sent consular assistance to the area in question.

We are ready to provide extra assistance as necessary to ensure the lives and welfare of the people concerned. These matters are treated seriously by the consular staff.

Mr Rikford: The position of companies in the United Kingdom is not a matter for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office but I will draw your attention to the incident of French lorries drivers stuck in sub-zero temperatures being taken out by helicopter and replaced with replacement crews?

Mr Tracey: Action has already been taken of the kind Mr Rikford requests. Representations have been made in Paris and Mr Raymond Whitney, Under Secretary of State, saw the French Ambassador yesterday and expressed the Government's very real concern.

On the question of action to assist lorries drivers, if there danger to them action to resolve it will be taken by the British Government. At present that is not the most serious problem.

Financial assistance and assistance with food supplies has been provided but the vast majority wish to remain where they are an look after their lorries.

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Royal commission calls for more spending to combat pollution

By John Young

An immediate reversal of the decline in government spending on environmental protection is sought in the tenth report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, published yesterday.

The report, which covers a variety of subjects including water quality in estuaries, the cleanliness of beaches, emissions from motor vehicles and power stations, acid rain and straw burning, states that control of pollution is not "an optional extra. It is a fundamental component of national economic and social policy, and has many international implications."

The commission also criticizes government delays in responding to its earlier reports. Like any other advisory bodies, royal commissions must accept that not all their recommendations will be implemented, but it is reasonable for them to expect that their reports will be dealt with as expeditiously as possible, it says.

Among subjects of recent public concern, the report identifies straw burning and the discharge into the sea of radioactive wastes from the nuclear fuel processing plant at Sellafield.

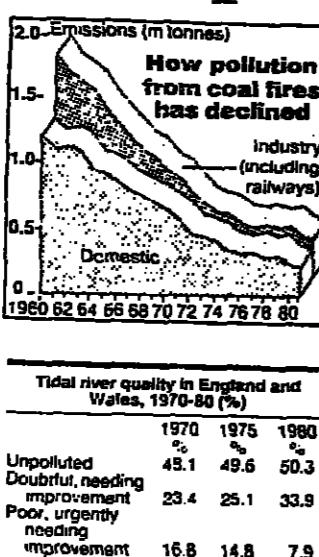
It recommends a ban on straw burning to take effect in five years' time. The legislation should be introduced immediately to make it clear that research and investment in other methods of disposal could not be postponed.

The commission says that it would "not be appropriate" for it to offer a considered judgement on the Radioactive Waste Management Advisory Committee and the National Radiological Protection Board. But it does recommend that the committee's terms of reference should be enlarged to include people with local government experience.

The report calls for the highest priority to be given to an appraisal of alternative energy sources ready for a possible progressive shift from fossil fuels.

"We respect the fears that many people continue to express about certain aspects of the nuclear power programme," it says. "But until the United Kingdom has a secure and environmentally attractive alternative, it would be wrong to discard the experience and expertise gained from several decades of nuclear power development."

"We would therefore support a modest increase in nuclear power capacity as part of a strategy for reducing dependence on fossil fuels."



dence on fossil fuels as a primary energy source and for reducing the polluting effects of their combustion."

Although the report devotes several pages to acid rain, which it describes as one of the most important pollution issues at present, it makes no detailed recommendations.

Instead, it supports further international research, although it also recommends that the General Electricity Generating Board should test the effectiveness of methods of reducing sulphur dioxide emissions.

Smoke emissions from diesel vehicles are in many circumstances at an unacceptable level, the report says. The Department of Transport should institute urgently research and other forms of technology to make the quality of emissions less dependent on maintenance standards.

Greater urgency should be given to developing simpler and more objective methods for smoke measurement at testing stations and at roadside spot checks. Local authorities should be empowered to take proceedings directly.

The commission considers it essential that there should be no increase in the quality of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and other carcinogens in exhaust emissions, and any steps taken by the Government to introduce unleaded petrol should avoid any such increase.

The water quality of some estuaries still gives cause for concern, although the commission's worst fears have not been realized, the report says.

The Mersey is the worst remaining blackspot. It re-

cives, untreated, the domestic sewage, trade effluent and surface water run-off from the Liverpool and Wirral conurbations. With a population of almost 1,500,000, they comprise by far the largest urban area with untreated discharges.

Many bathing waters and beaches suffer from an undesirable degree of sewage contamination, the report says. The risk of serious disease is small, but the visible presence of faecal and other offensive materials can mean a serious loss of amenity.

The Government should set a date for ending the discharge of crude sewage. It should also reconsider the criteria used for identifying bathing waters under EEC directive, with a view to increasing their number.

The report also makes a number of recommendations for making more information available to the public.

"Secretary fuel's fear", it says.

"A guiding principle behind all legislative and administrative controls should be a presumption in favour of unrestricted access... with provision for identifying bathing waters under EEC directive, with a view to increasing their number.

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Kohl prepares joint effort with Paris to ensure EEC summit success

From Michael Blayton, Bonn

Amid unusual secrecy Chancellor Kohl of West Germany appears to be planning a joint *Démarche* with France to overcome the crisis now facing the European Community.

A flurry of meetings with European leaders by both President Mitterrand and Herr Kohl has raised speculation that the two countries are preparing a package that can be presented as a *Fait accompli* to Mrs Thatcher.

For the Chancellor is determined to prevent a breakdown of next month's summit, and to show himself to his critics at home and abroad as a spokesman able to transcend national bickering and give new impetus to the European ideal.

Perhaps more than any of its partners, West Germany sees its interests and identity defined by membership of the Community. If the EEC were to founder it would not only be an economic disaster for the Federal Republic, but also a political catastrophe. And as the prospects for success in Brussels look ever gloomier so German impatience is growing.

Herr Kohl told the national executive of his Christian Democratic Party (CDU) on Monday that Europe needed relations at the expense of relations with London.

Nevertheless, for historic and political reasons, West Germany is closer to Paris than to

not stick in its present state.

The Community could not have any value if in every stormy situation one member or another hinted it would leave. All members had to be asked whether they regarded their membership as irreversible, as West Germany did.

The speed of the Community's advance could not be set by the slowest ship, he added, alluding to proposals after the fiasco in Athens for a "two-speed" Europe, with West Germany and the other founding members setting the pace.

Herr Kohl is probably glad to be able to raise his sights from the political strains within his coalition and direct attention to an ideal broadly shared by everyone in the country. Almost unnoticed Europe, and especially the ties to France, have become the priority in Bonn's foreign policy.

But Bonn does not have an easy course to steer. Closer links with France depend on resolving the tricky economic problems between the two countries, in particular the cross-border tariffs on agricultural imports from France into Germany. And Bonn does not want to be drawn by Paris into supporting the French position on Britain's rebate at the expense of relations with London.

Nevertheless, for historic and political reasons, West Germany is closer to Paris than to

London on Europe - in spite of a sneaking sympathy for Britain's case and a shared desire to see agricultural spending brought under control. Herr Kohl is convinced that France and Germany must be the dynamo to get Europe moving again.

He is therefore eager to revive the close cooperation that flourished in the days of President Giscard d'Estaing and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, but which ran into squalls when both countries changed political direction and economic policies were out of step.

An important element in this cooperation is defence. After years of virtually no interest in Paris, there has been a sudden flourishing of defence cooperation. This involves much more than armament technology and business deals and may soon include strategy deliberations by the experts. Bonn is eager to pursue this if only to try to reassure a nervous neighbour across the Rhine that West Germany is not going neutralist or weakening in its defence resolve.

Both sides' interests in coordinating their defence policies may have been sharpened by harsh hints from Washington that America was looking to Japan and the Pacific, and that Europe had better define its own interests in the Atlantic Alliance more clearly.



Former President Galtieri of Argentina (left) on his way to appear before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. The general was arrested on Tuesday on the presumption that he committed military crimes during the Falklands War. If convicted, he could be sentenced to death (Douglas Tweedale writes from Buenos Aires).

More than 18 months after the last shot was fired, the commanders who led the country to defeat are going before a military court to be tried for their responsibility. Yesterday, the nine-member tribunal was questioning the former navy commander, Admiral Jorge Anaya. The president of the Supreme Council said it was possible that he could also be arrested after answering 15 questions the court had prepared for him.

Wild card in island election

Dismay in Grenada as Gairy steps out

From Trevor Fishlock,
St George's, Grenada

On a roadside rock above St George's Harbour someone has lettered, in red paint, the word Mongoose, and has thoughtfully added an arrow. The arrow points to a substantial pink house with a red corrugated roof. Everybody knows who lives here, and everybody knows what Mongoose means. The word can still cause a shiver.

The Mongoose Gang was a sort of Tonton Macoute, a private cadre of thugs employed by Sir Eric Gairy during his despotic rule of Grenada in the 1970s.

Sir Eric was in America when Maurice Bishop took power five years ago. Now he is back in Grenada, 62 years old, dapper in suits and ties, and the cause of some uneasiness. There are plenty of people, from the Governor-General down who are dismayed at his return.

There are to be elections by the end of the year and Sir Eric is testing the water, making occasional excursions from the pink house on the hill in the company of his bodyguard, Clarence. He has said that he will not stand for Parliament himself, but he has made it plain that if his candidates are successful he will have the reins.

As this little island, bankrupt and politically shattered, struggles to rebuild itself, Sir Eric is the wild card, with an undoubted capacity for mischief.

The American invasion has been presented, partly, as a restoration of democracy. But the truth is that even before the Bishop government Grenada experienced precious little democracy. Eric Gairy was a ruthless autocrat whose regime was propped up with the help of his Mongoose Gang.

There had been a time, though, when he was very popular. As a trade union leader in the 1950s he improved the conditions of thousands of workers on banana and cocoa plantations, securing land, housing and better pay for them. "Uncle Gairy" earned their gratitude and his Grenada United Labour Party (GULP), won the 1972 elections. When the island became independent ten years ago he was Prime Minister. But his autocratic style and bizarre behaviour angered people. Parliament met infrequently. He had to rig the 1976 elections to keep power.

It was not surprising that many islanders welcomed Maurice Bishop's coup as the removal of a rotten regime. They sang "Freedom come, Gairy go, Gairy gone with UFO".

A handful of parties are being revived and founded. But no party can be described as organized at the moment, and the chrysalis politicians are barely known. Supporters of Maurice Bishop are trying to



Eric Gairy

salvage something from the wreckage of the New Jewel movement, but to a large extent Maurice Bishop was the party. The best-known political name in the island is Sir Eric Gairy, and GULP is the least disorganized of the parties. But would people vote for him? Soundings suggest his support would be very small - but these are early days.

Sir Eric has already held his first rally. He gave rice and chicken lunch to several hundred elderly people based in from the plantations. This is one of Sir Eric's traditional vote-winning devices. What support he has lies among these older people.

A young airline clerk said to me: "Young people won't vote for him. They know too much. But out in the country there are many who remember what he did for them and don't care about the rest."

Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the interim government, takes a phlegmatic view. "I agree there is a long way to go in building the parties. No party other than Maurice Bishop's was allowed to operate for five years. But we should look on the election as a challenge. When the parties get into gear they will change the people's mood. It is their job to inspire."

"The election should be exciting. Whatever you think of Gairy, his presence will make things more exciting. He does not make me concerned and I haven't thought about his winning. I am not interested in the ideological complexion of the government elected by the people, provided the people have the right to change it. We should not be fearful."

Nevertheless, some people in Grenada are anxious. There is another slogan painted on a rock in St George's - "Gairy is trouble". It sums up what many people feel. But it remains to be seen whether Eric Gairy will emerge as a threat to the island he once ruled, or as just a bit player, a curiosity, in an extraordinary Caribbean drama.

Albania protest in Athens

From Mario Modiano
Athens

Thousands of Greeks protested outside the Albanian Embassy in Athens yesterday against the alleged violation of human rights of Albania's Greek minority.

The demonstration came 24 hours after Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, issued a warning that although Greece nursed no territorial claims against Albania it would not tolerate those violations.

It was a significant policy reversal for the Socialist Government, which has been treating Albania with diplomatic kid gloves, to the extent of ordering the police last Sunday to remove forcibly two Albanian Greeks who were staging a hunger strike outside the Albanian Embassy in Athens to press a demand that their families be allowed to join them in Greece.

The police raid provoked an outcry. The opposition deplored the action of a government that showed excessive sensitivity toward the Albanian Embassy but often encouraged demonstrations against the American embassy.

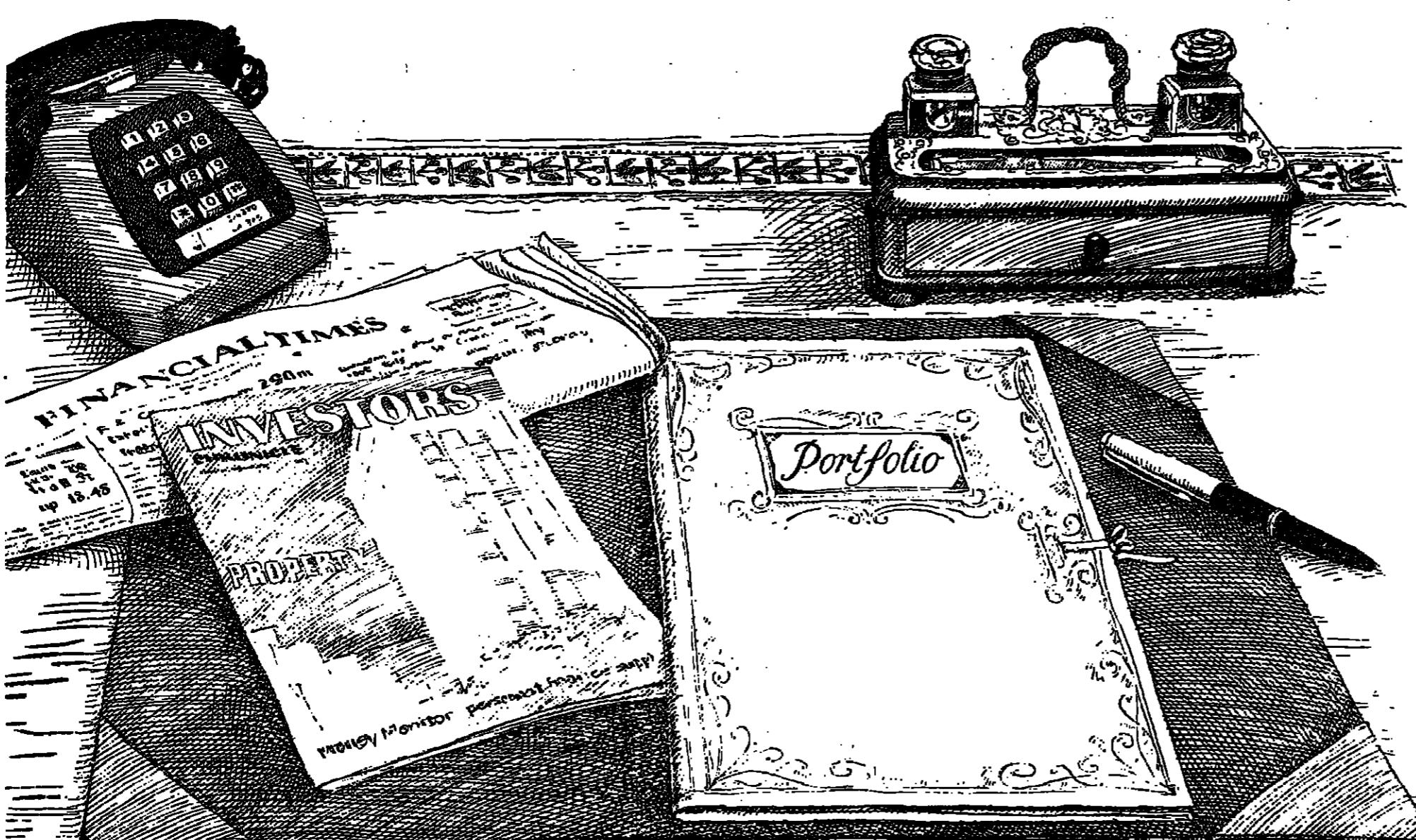
Two hunger strikers were Mr Elias Lekkas and his uncle, Mr Spyros Lekkas, who escaped to Greece 22 months ago.

Mr Elias Lekkas left behind a wife and child, whose whereabouts he does not know, and his elderly father, who is serving a jail sentence until the year 2003. Mr Spyros Lekkas left behind his wife and three children.

The two men were taken to hospital, but their relatives said they were still refusing to take food for the fifteenth day and were tearing out the needles inserted in their veins to feed them.

Fugitives have claimed the Albania has 400,000 Greeks in a population of two million. They allege that about 100,000 are exiled and 25,000 are in jail for political reasons.

A report by Mr D. A. Enright, British MEP for Leeds, to the European Parliament in November 1982, spoke of the "regime of terror" imposed on Albania's Greek minority, and urged the Greek Government to raise the matter urgently with Albania.



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مكتبة من الأصل

Shaikh's murder fuels Shia resentment over Israeli occupation

From Christopher Walker, Jibchit, southern Lebanon

In this town of 8,000 Shia Muslims, young men were this week hanging a large colour portrait of their late religious leader, Shaikh Rashed Harb - shot last Thursday by unknown gunmen - on the wall of the community centre under a giant picture of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Bearded and suspicious, the youths prepared, after intense whispered discussions, to talk about the latest assassinations in Southern Lebanon, where the occupying Israeli forces are facing mounting hostility from the Shia Muslim majority, most of whom are showing little inclination to join the militias which Jerusalem hopes may provide a buffer against the return of Palestinian fighters.

The growing resentment of the Shias is regarded as the most important element in the troubled situation in southern Lebanon, where Israeli troops face an average of 15 ambushes a week. Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the former Prime Minister, has given warning that if Shia terrorism should ever spill over the border into Israel, it would make Palestinian violence "look like child's play".

Shaikh Harb's cousin, a local French teacher, said: "No one has caught the killers, but everyone is convinced they were militiamen who cooperate with the Israelis. They think that this will stop the resistance to them, but it will only increase it. The people here are angry, even more than they are sad."

For miles around the hillside town, black flags hang in mourning for the murdered man, who since the Israeli invasion has established himself as a formidable leader of opposition to it, and one of the most hardened of the new breed of extreme clergy. All have been

inspired by the recent victories of Muslim and Druze militias in Beirut.

Two weeks before the Shaikh, aged 32, was hit by three bullets fired from behind his garden wall, he had returned from "a spiritual journey" to Iran. He was regarded by Israeli intelligence as having inspired a number of recent attacks, including murders of south Lebanese militia leaders prepared to cooperate and join the self-styled "national guard".

Within hours of his killing, Muslim fanatics attempted to run to the neighbouring village of Harrouf, bearing his blood-stained corpse on a stretcher. They were greeted by a burst of fire from pro-Israeli militiamen, who wounded four and dispersed the crowd.

Sympathy strikes followed which stretched from south Lebanon to west Beirut. The funeral was attended by more than 50,000 Shias, including Mr Muhammad Ghaddar, the spokesman of the Amal militia in southern Lebanon.

In a chilling interview in his house overlooking the port city of Sidon - the great majority of whose 150,000 citizens are Muslim - Mr Ghaddar spoke at length about how new recruits to Amal were being trained as fighting men prepared to die for the Islamic cause. "We do not take everyone. We have plenty of places in Lebanon to test whether they really are prepared to die or not."

The American-educated militia leader spoke passionately of the need for a complete Israeli withdrawal. He described the way ordinary Shia Muslims (85 per cent of the 700,000 people under Israeli control) have been alienated in the 20 months since they first welcomed the Israelis for driving out the PLO.

"When religious leaders like the late Shaikh Harb walk in south Lebanon today, the earth trembles under their feet," one UN source said. "They have filled a leadership vacuum north of the Litani River and are now a power the Israelis have to reckon with. When people take violent action here, it is often for religious, rather than patriotic, motives."

United Nations officials share the belief that Amal would fight to prevent a PLO return if the Israelis left. But they warn that if the bitterness, fostered by the fanatical Islamic clergy - was to increase, the south Lebanese might be prepared to turn a blind eye to future PLO attacks on Israeli targets.

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"Look," he said, pointing to the orange groves below, "they have been bulldozing our orchards for 50 yards on either side of the road because they think that will stop the attacks against them. They have also knocked down miles of the concrete walls which protected our crops from the sea winds."

Mr Ghaddar accused Israel of destroying the economy of southern Lebanon and refusing to accept assurances from the Shia community that its own militiamen were capable of preventing any PLO return after an Israeli withdrawal.

"We would be keeping them out for our own purposes, not theirs," Mr Ghaddar said. Israeli officers admit that since the recent fighting in Beirut, Amal is on what one described as the upswing in southern Lebanon.

The Shamir Cabinet is faced with the dilemma that only withdrawal is likely to defuse the resentment against the occupying army.

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White student leader tells Pretoria court of torture by security police

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A young white former student leader has given details of alleged torture at the hands of the security police, in hearings before the Pretoria Supreme Court, where he is suing 10 for damages totalling 113,000 rands (£64,570).

Mr Aucreef Van Heerden, a former president of the National Union of South African Students, was held without trial in prisons in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Benoni from September 24, 1981 to July 9, 1982.

The events he described allegedly occurred on November 18, 1981. The day before, he had been warned by one of the policemen he is suing that the police had killed Steve Biko and had not been punished, and would not be afraid to kill a "small fish" like him.

Biko, the black consciousness leader, died from injuries received in security police custody in 1977. Mr Sydney Kentridge, who represented the Biko family at the inquest, is also representing Mr Van Heerden.

Mr Van Heerden told the court he was taken to a fourth-floor room in the security police offices, where he was interrogated from 8am to 6.30pm, with his right wrist handcuffed to his left ankle.

The police said they were not going to ask any questions and

expected him to volunteer information. Major P. P. Olivier struck him several times on the head to make him "think".

He felt pains in his chest and could not breathe properly. He was given nothing to eat or drink.

After office workers in the building had gone home, the handcuffs were taken off, a canvas bag was put over his head and water poured over it. Mr Van Heerden said. Electric shocks were administered to the base of his neck.

"I screamed and I could not inhale. I started to flounder around the floor, gasping for a while, while the shocks went on." The bag was pulled on and off, his body went into convulsions and he prayed he would pass out. The policemen stamped on his fingers when he tried to remove the bag.

After the shocks which went on for about an hour and a half, Warrant Officer Lawrence Prince and Major Olivier held him in a sitting position while Major J. N. Visser thumped him on the head and wrapped a bath towel round his neck almost strangling him.

Several of the policemen he is suing were involved in the interrogation of Neil Aggett, the banned South African National Congress and what methods he used to communicate with the organization.

He feared assassination. His house had been attacked several times by unknown people, as had his brother's house. His car windscreen had been shattered.

Racecourses were closed, and government offices, businesses, restaurants and shops gave time off to employees to attend

special church services, to which it is hoped the Almighty will respond by breaking the drought.

The summer rains began promisingly in November and December, bringing relief after last year's drought, which was one of the worst this century. But the rain has stopped, leaving most dams much less



Golden moment: The Mahre family of Scottsdale, Arizona (Phil, Holly and 17-month-old Lindsey) admiring their latest arrival, Alexander, who was born at almost the same time as Phil was winning the Olympics slalom Gold Medal in Sarajevo.

South Africa prays for rain

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Prayers for rain were said throughout South Africa yesterday after a request from the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, that Wednesday should be set aside as a day of atonement and intercession.

Racecourses were closed, and government offices, businesses, restaurants and shops gave time off to employees to attend

than half full and spelling disaster for this year's maize crop.

The chairman of the Maize Board, Mr Crawford van Abo, said yesterday that, for the first time in South Africa's history, imports would this year exceed local production. This could entail an import cost of up to 1,000 rand (£570m).

When underdogs fell out

Prophets without honour at home

In the last four articles on the decline of Eurocommunism, Edward Mortimer and Mario Modiano explain the obstacles to its development in Greece.

In the brief and shadowy history of Eurocommunism, Greece occupies a special place – not because Eurocommunism was especially successful there but because, well before the term was coined, Greece had produced a separate Communist party which perfectly fitted the description.

This arose from the special circumstances of the struggle against the colonels' dictatorship, which coincided with the first stirrings of what later became Eurocommunism in Western Europe – notably the reaction of Western communist parties to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

The "internal" leadership of the Greek Communist party (KKE) – that is those directing the struggle inside Greece, including at that time the composer Mikis Theodorakis – came out against the Soviet invasion and in support of their Czech comrades, led by Alexander Dubcek. But this position was repudiated by the officials leadership of the party in exile, which was based in Bulgaria and heavily dependent on Soviet support.

This issue combined with the usual tensions that arise between those living under occupation or dictatorship and those who try to give them orders from abroad, resulted in a split. The Eurocommunist wing of the party became known as the KKE-Interior. One might have thought the group based inside the country would have greater popular support, but when the junta fell in 1974 and both communist parties were legalized it was the old official leadership, returning from exile, that established itself as the "real" KKE in most people's eyes. For all, where if not in Moscow can certificates of authentic communism be issued?

The KKE-Interior, like other Eurocommunist parties later on, had difficulty in defining its identity and distinguishing itself from other left-wing groups. In fact, until 1981 it chose to fight elections as part of a broader front and in that year, campaigning for the first time under its own colours, it polled a mere 1.69 per cent (compared to the official KKE's 10.92 per cent) – not enough for a single seat in Parliament. It did rather better, however.

EUROCOMMUNISM
Part 4
GREECE

in the elections held simultaneously for the European Parliament, winning 5.15 per cent (compared to the KKE's 12.68) and one seat. This was no doubt because, unlike other left-wing parties including Mr Andreas Papandreou's Pasok, it unequivocally supported Greek membership of the EEC.

Accordingly, the party now is preparing actively for next June's European elections, hoping again to do better than in a national poll and helped by the charismatic personality of its single MEP, Leonidas Kyriakos – an orator so fascinating and convincing that he has one supporter even among Greek conservatives.

One reason adduced by analysts for the limited appeal of Eurocommunism in Greece is the intensity of the passions stirred by the civil war of 1944-49, which fed to a polarization with little room for nuances.

For the average Greek communist, who was the political underdog for 30 years after 1944, the world was black and white, divided between the United States and the Soviet Union. They feel they cannot afford not to side with Mother Russia.

That feeling, needless to say, has been assiduously cultivated by the official KKE leadership and by its Soviet backers, who treat the breakaway party as worse than fascists. President Andropov's recent death gave the Greek Eurocommunists their first opportunity in years to contact the Soviet Embassy in Athens which had systematically ignored them. The party signed the embassy's condolences book but sent no one to the Moscow funeral.

But more important, probably, is that the potential Eurocommunist electorate is preempted by Pasok, with its left-wing, anti-American brand of socialist rhetoric. Between Pasok and the official KKE there is not much space. Hence the Eurocommunists have little mass support, except among students, who often team up with anarchists and various non-aligned groups.

Concluded

Unions back Duarte in Salvadorean election

From John Carlin
San Salvador

Almost the entire Salvadorean labour movement has opted "openly and decisively" to support the Christian Democratic (PDC) candidate, Senior José Duarte, in the presidential election due on March 25.

Senior Duarte and other PDC leaders have signed a pact with the chiefs of the union umbrella organization, the Popular Democratic Union (UPD), in which both sides agree to join forces in the political battle "for better living conditions, for peace and for an end to the Salvadorean crisis".

The UPD, which is the near Salvadorean equivalent to the TUC, has 500,000 members. 20 per cent of El Salvador's voting population.

In the document, not yet officially released but disclosed to *The Times* yesterday, the Christian Democrats agree, should they win the election, to give union members key posts in government economic areas.

In exchange, the UPD has promised to provide support, in both personnel and money, for the PDC electoral campaign.

There is a big UPD demon-

stration, for example, scheduled for two weeks before the election.

The UPD has also said it will collaborate in supervising ballot boxes on election day, a not irrelevant function in a country where electoral fraud has been something of an institution in the past.

The Christian Democrats, a social democratic party by European standards, is considered "communist" by its main election rivals, the Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena).

The consensus here is that an Arena victory will be followed by fierce repression of the organized labour movement.



Senior Duarte: Deal on government posts

The labour organizations' comprehensive backing of the PDC will no doubt shake Arena's presidential candidate, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson. But the right too appears to be boosting its forces at the moment.

Diplomats have added to recent speculation in political circles that two of the six parties in the election may form a coalition with Arena in exchange for a guarantee of cabinet positions for their presidential candidates in a future government.

The two parties, the right-wing Salvadorean Popular Party and the Salvadorean Independent Party, are too small to stand any chance of winning the election on their own but their support for Arena in what promises to be a very close race could prove decisive on election day.

The consensus here is that an Arena victory will be followed by fierce repression of the organized labour movement.

Nicaragua poll advanced for fear of US attack

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

The announcement by the Sandinista Government of a November 4 election means that Nicaragua should be able to install an elected government two days before President Reagan begins a second term of office if he wins the US election.

A president, vice-president and a constituent assembly of 90 deputies are to be installed in Managua on January 10.

Western diplomats here expressed little surprise that the Sandinistas had brought the elections forward some six months from the date most observers had expected.

They said there was genuine concern among the nine *comandantes* who have governed the country since the revolution in 1979 that the danger of American intervention would be far more real during a second Reagan term.

There was greater surprise at the announcement that the voting age is to be 16 years, and not 18 as announced by the *comandantes* in January.

In a country where more than 60 per cent of the population is under 21 and most young people support the Sandinistas, the enfranchisement of 230,000 more teenagers is sure to increase the bitterness of opposition parties.

They have accused the Sandinistas of ignoring their own electoral proposals and stage managing the process to ensure their own victory. Senior Luis Rivas, president of the Democratic Coordinating Committee, the opposition umbrella organization, said: "The elections are being fashioned to keep the Sandinistas in power indefinitely".

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The Territorials

لدى من الأصل

Peking hint of summer agreement as talks on Hongkong resume

From David Bonavia, Peking

The ninth round of talks between Britain and China over the future of Hongkong got under way here yesterday with the Chinese side apparently optimistic about reaching general agreement by the middle of the year.

Sir Richard Evans, the new British Ambassador, would not comment on the substance of the talks. Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, attended as usual.

A Chinese official said the talks were progressing smoothly and it was hoped that agreement would be reached by July. China has previously said that it will announce its own solution if there is no agreement by September.

The Chinese negotiating team is headed by Mr Zhou Nan, a senior Foreign Ministry official. Mr Ji Pengfei, the former Foreign Minister who is in overall charge of the negotia-

tions on the Chinese side, said recently that he thought "substantial progress" could be reached during this round of negotiations.

In addition, the Chinese media have been regularly praising Hongkong's economic strength and prospects. Mr Deng Xiaoping, the elder statesman, has visited the border town of Shenzhen, which has numerous business links with Hongkong, and looked across the river into the British-administered New Territories, the lease on which expires in 1997.

The Chinese Government is showing considerable satisfaction with the progress of Shenzhen and other "special economic zones" set up adjacent to Hongkong and Macao to attract capital from those territories and from overseas.

The idea evidently is to work on the "ink-blot" principle,

with Hongkong exporting its technical, managerial and commercial expertise to Shenzhen, as well as providing capital for joint ventures and processing agreements.

Observers see this as helping to guarantee Peking's promises that Hongkong will retain its present commercial, legal and social system for 50 years after formal surrender of sovereignty by Britain in 13 years' time.

Chinese government organs in Hongkong, such as the Bank of China and the New China news agency have been taking a high profile lately, entertaining local businessmen to cocktail parties and hosting a banquet for the Governor.

It seems that Peking is anxious not to repeat the mistakes of last September, when friction over Britain's proposals for continued ad-

ministration of Hongkong were met with indignant denials.

US in 'cordial' talks with Vietnam

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Senior American and Vietnamese officials have concluded in Hanoi what appear to have been the most cordial and fruitful meetings between the two nations have had since the end of the war in Vietnam nine years ago.

Mr Richard Armitage, Deputy Secretary of Defence, said on his return to Bangkok yesterday that the talks with Mr Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's Foreign Minister, were exclusively for the war.

Vietnam agreed to resume regular meetings between American and Vietnamese technical experts which ended last year after comments by the US Government which Vietnam found objectionable.

Final appeal fails in dingo case

From Tony Dubouin

Mrs Lindy Chamberlain's last avenue of appeal against her conviction for the murder of her baby daughter, Azaria, at an Ayers Rock camping site in 1980 was closed yesterday when the High Court in Canberra failed to overturn her conviction.

The court ruled by a majority of 3-2 that guilty verdicts should stand against Mrs Chamberlain and her husband Michael who was convicted of being an accessory after the fact.

Throughout the case the Chamberlains have protested their innocence, and said that their baby was taken from the family tent by a dingo. Mrs Chamberlain, who will be 36 next month, will continue serving her life sentence in Darwin's Berrimah jail, where she has been since last May, when bail was refused by the High Court.

The Chief Justice, Sir Harry Gibbs, Mr Justice Mason and Mr Justice Brennan rejected the Chamberlains' appeal. Mr Justice Murphy said that the guilty verdict should be set aside and both the Chamberlains acquitted. Mr Justice Deane also said that the guilty verdict should be quashed.

The majority decision was reached after more than two months' consideration and was contained in a 53-page joint judgment written by Sir Harry Gibbs and Mr Justice Mason.

"I would like to affirm that Lindy and I are innocent people," he said. "We will continue to fight to clear our name and the name of our



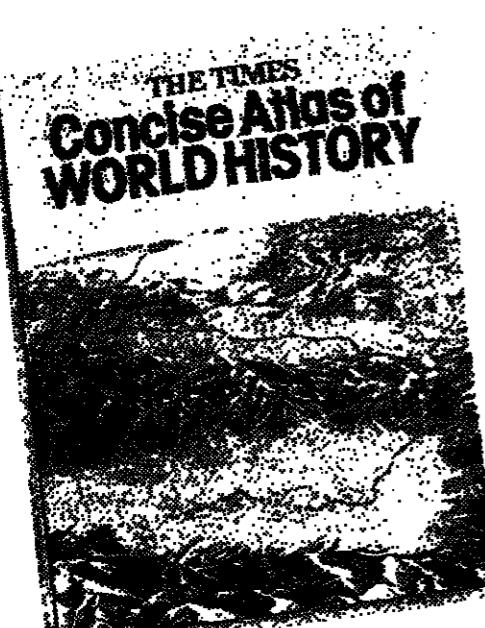
Mrs Chamberlain: 'Only available hypothesis'

family. This case is not over yet."

The judgement said that it had been established beyond reasonable doubt that, apart from her elder children, Mrs Chamberlain was the only person who had had an opportunity to kill Azaria.

The possibility that a child killed the baby having been rejected, only two possible explanations of the facts remained open-either a dingo took Azaria or Mrs Chamberlain killed her.

"Therefore, if the jury were satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that a dingo did not take the baby, they were entitled to accept the only other available that Mrs Chamberlain was guilty of murder".



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Brunei ban on Crown Agents may be lifted

From David Watts

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

The Crown Agents have taken another blow in the face from Brunei. After the removal of about 23 million invested with the agents last year, Brunei has now banned them from bidding for government contracts.

It is understood that the ban has been in effect since last October and will last for six months. The agents have appealed to the Government against the decision of the Brunei Tender Board. A representative of the agents recently flew from Singapore to intercede. Brunei has given no reason for the ban, but it is believed to be under review.

It all seems to stem from yet another misunderstanding between the two governments at a time when it appeared that relations were finally on an even keel after the acrimonious negotiations on the continued presence of the Gurkhas reached last September.

"It is a question of a decision taken on two facts," according to an informed Brunei source. "If 20 facts had been considered, the decision might have been different."

Hopes are high that the ban will be lifted soon amid the aura of goodwill created by Prince Charles at the independence celebrations, which began yesterday.

Heavy rain over the past few days has drenched the famous polo ground at Jerudong, so the



Royal handshake: A Brunei nobleman greeting the Prince of Wales yesterday.

yesterday afternoon, looking tired after the long flight from London. He was driven to the Central Padang for a formal welcome from the Sultan, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, and a

Prince could only manage a brief canter yesterday. There are hopes of a match later in the visit. The Prince is staying at the Polo Club house.

Polo and banquets apart, Brunei's celebration of nationhood will be more than mere merrymaking. It provides the opportunity for the first meet-

ing of the heads of state of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) for six years.

The leaders of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines are meeting the ruler of the newest Asean country, Brunei, in a group for the first time.

Zia hopes to hold elections in October

From Hassan Akhtar

Islamabad

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan said here yesterday that he hoped elections would be held by the end of the year.

He was speaking at Islamabad airport before leaving for Brunei to attend independence celebrations. General Zia told a German journalist on Tuesday that he would arrange the National Assembly poll in October before Provincial Assembly elections. The politicians would also prefer it that way.

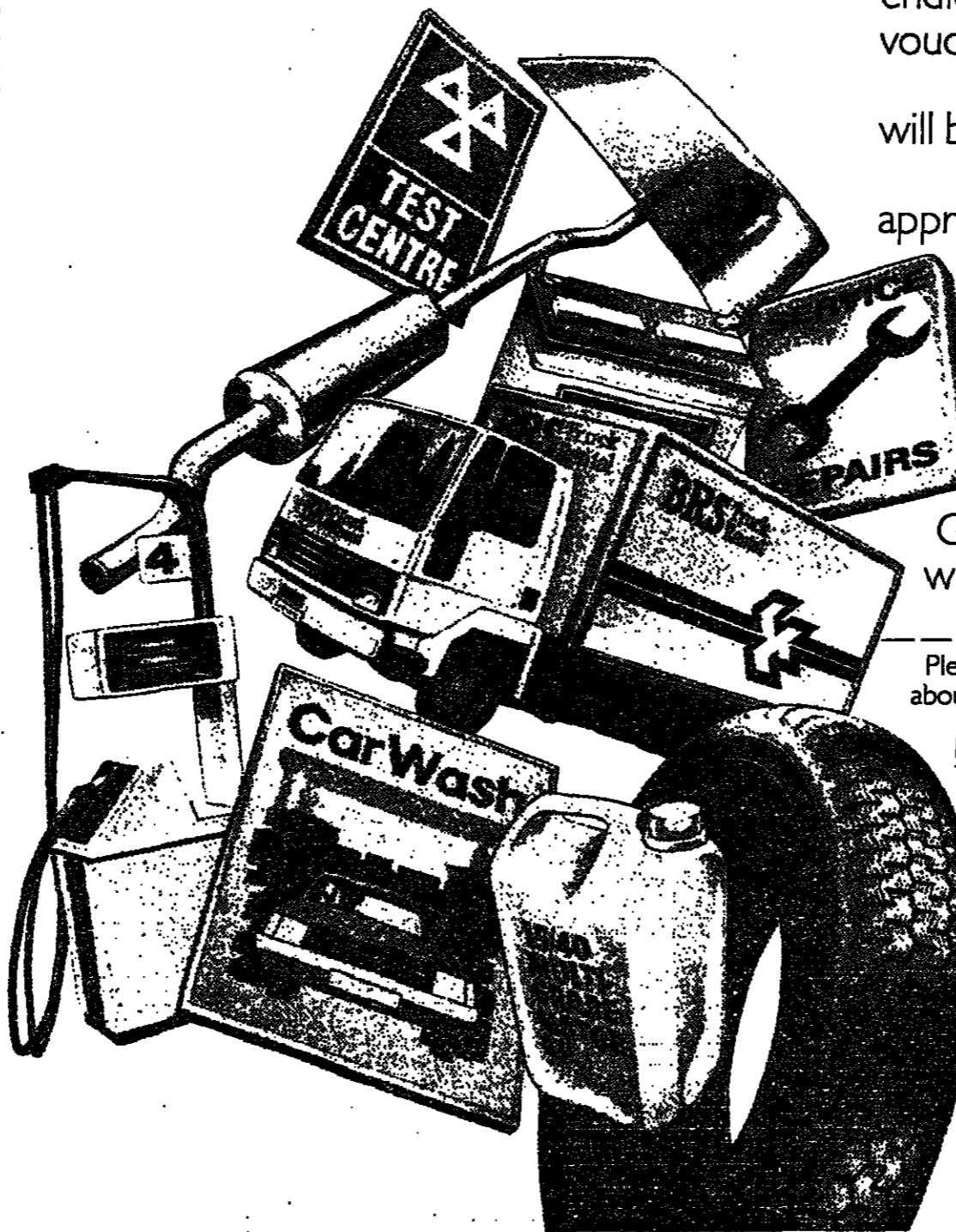
The President said the transfer of power to an elected government would be completed by March, 1985, according to the German journalist.

General Zia yesterday said he had not yet taken a final decision on the nature of parliamentary elections. He has several options. But the important question is whether to allow the political parties to participate, or hold what he described as Islamic elections, without the parties.

He made clear that he would ensure that only those who came up to his standard of integrity and character would be permitted to compete. Associates of the former Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali, would, by and large, be kept out of the elections.

General Zia said that the ban on student organizations and unions would continue.

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SPECTRUM

At the feet of the master

It is quiet in the rehearsal room. Light comes across the roofs of Covent Garden. The corps de ballet loll on the floor against two walls. In one corner there is a grand piano with a pianist. Along another wall various well-known dancers wait, one drinking Pepsi-Cola and reading a book. Along another, on folding chairs, sit the notator, the designer, the assistant to the choreographer, and choreographer, summons the soloists to the centre and mimes their positions. The music begins and the dancers hurl themselves together. The choreographer returns to his seat. He walks with an unusual glide, the visible legacy of a dancer's training.

At 21, Kenneth MacMillan leapt across the cover of *Ballet* magazine. Soon after, he hung up his ballet shoes for good. "Everyone thought I was mad," he says, "but I couldn't wait to get off the stage." That was in the early 1950s but the reason he disliked being a dancer still gives the best clue to his subsequent work as a choreographer. "I was getting non-interpretive parts, just sheer technique. And that bored me silly."

Sir Kenneth MacMillan, knighted last year after 30 years with the Royal Ballet, is recognized as king of the dramatic ballet, the kind where the dancers are not used, in his words, like "typewriter keys" but as "human beings". Pure technique bored MacMillan as a dancer (as well as terrifying him!) and when he became a choreographer he determined to take ballet into new areas. "I felt I was in the theatre, and in general, ballet didn't reflect all theatre can do."

This attitude has made MacMillan enemies among purists who believe it is the very limitations of classical ballet which define its strength. For them, drama weakens its essential nature. Such critics look to Balanchine as the true master of modern classical ballet. Despite a long and successful association with such an establishment as the Royal Ballet, MacMillan still seems beleaguered. He says: "Whatever I have done, I have always felt a rebel."

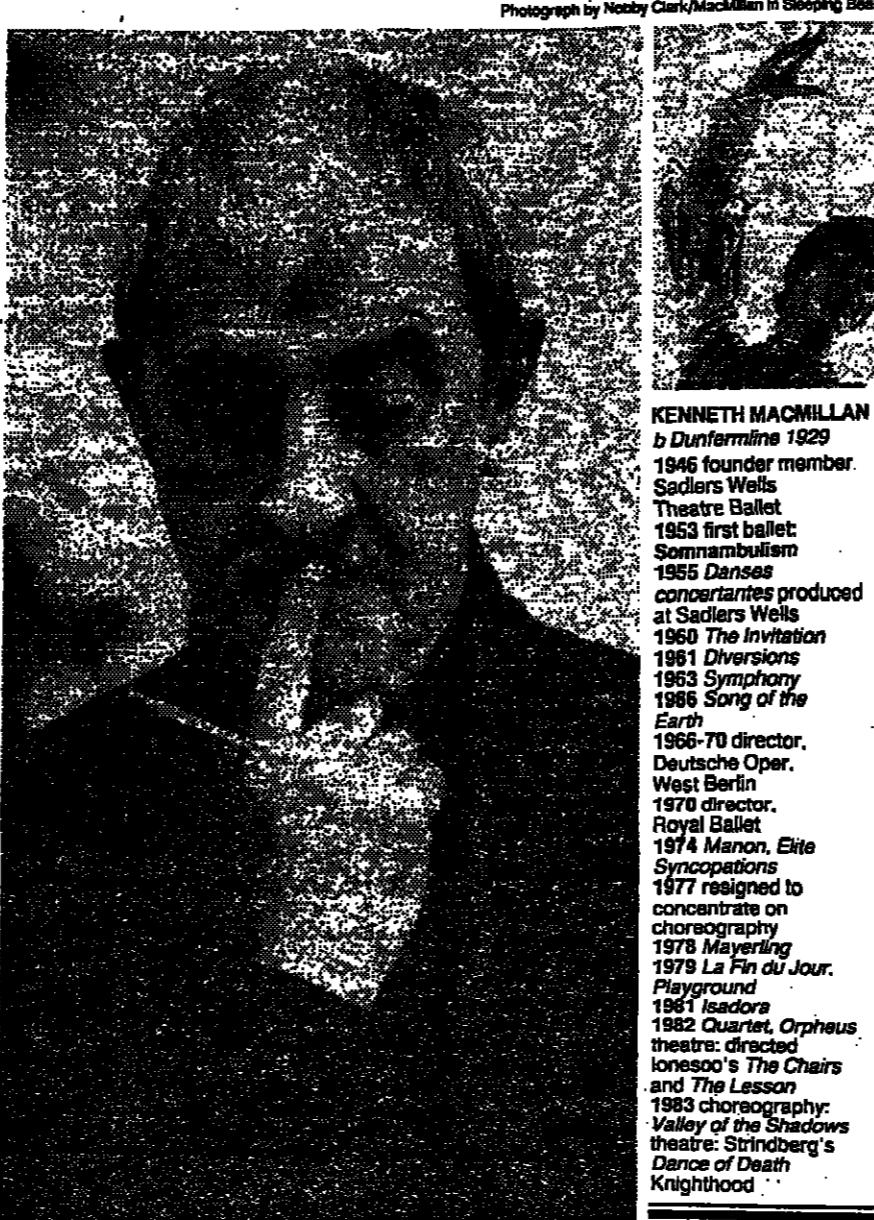
He could have added "outsider" too. Kenneth MacMillan was born in Dunfermline, Fife, in 1929. When he was five his father, who had been gassed in the First World War, lost his money in a chicken farm and they moved to Great Yarmouth to live with his grandparents. The family was "very

The Times Profile: Kenneth MacMillan

working class" - his father had been a miner before the war. MacMillan learned about ballet at the local library, where he spent much of his time. Nijinsky and Fred Astaire became heroes. He listened to classical music on the wireless. (Surprisingly, he has never learned to read music, preferring to "respond to the emotions of the music rather than the mathematics of it"). Then came the war and evacuation for his grammar school and digs in Nottinghamshire. However, as he points out wryly, they returned home for the holidays. "Violence and war is a whole part of my childhood." On the first day of his first holiday his much-loved mother died. This left him with an embittered father, and two much-loved older sisters, one of whom was deaf. By the end of the war, ballet had become a secret obsession. (Even now he describes himself as very secretive). It was then he wrote under his father's name asking Ninette de Valois to accept him at Sadler's Wells school.

"Obsession" and "emotion" are two words that figure largely in Kenneth MacMillan's vocabulary. They sound odd coming from a man whose immediately obvious qualities are gentleness and quiet. In the rehearsal room he uses no demonstration of physical energy to control and command his sometimes large and ebullient forces - 18 marching boys during one session. A very soft clap is his loudest expression of power. The art of gentle persuasion is very important when the body is being pushed to its physical limits. Commands to established star Wayne Eagling and new star Alessandra Ferri, such as "Kiss to the beat of four", are obeyed as if for a stage performance. But immediately afterwards the scene diffuses into general giggles, in which MacMillan himself joins.

Although the real MacMillan only emerges in the rehearsal rooms, we meet to talk in his house in Wandsworth. It is a large family home inhabited by his beautiful wife Deborah, who paints, their daughter Charlotte, aged 10, who "flirts with ballet", various other relations and two noisy dogs. The household presents an



KENNETH MACMILLAN
b Dunfermline 1929
1946 founder member.
Sadler's Wells
Theatre Ballet
1953 first ballet:
Somnambulism
1955 Dances
concertantes produced
at Sadler's Wells
1960 The Invitation
1961 DivERSIONS
1963 Symphony
1966 Song of the
Earth
1966-70 director,
Deutsche Oper,
West Berlin
1970 director,
Royal Ballet
1974 Manon, Elite
Syncopations
1977 resigned to
concentrate on
choreography
1978 Mayerling
1979 La Fin du Jour.
Petrouchka
1982 Cleopatra
theatre: directed
London's The Chairs
and The Lesson
1983 choreography:
Valley of the Shadows
theatre: Strindberg's
Dance of Death
Knightbridge

has referred to a breakdown he suffered at this time after the death of his sister in a car crash. Indeed his image as the tormented loner lasts until his marriage in 1974. Nevertheless he continued to create ballets, including a one-act version of *Anastasia*. He returned to the Royal Ballet as director in 1970 for a very long seven years. Since then he has regularly produced ballets of which obsession, self-destruction and sheer horror have been major themes. "I find the tragic more interesting than the comic."

The new ballet which I have been watching in rehearsal and which will be premiered tomorrow (sponsored by Citicorp Bank Ltd) is no exception. It is called *Different Drummer* and based on Buchner's *Woyzeck*. MacMillan arrived at the subject through his production of Strindberg's play *Dance of Death* in Manchester last year, which stimulated his interest in expressionism.

The play is made up of fragments which can be variously ordered but MacMillan has moulded them into a continuous flow. It was the imagery of the play that attracted him and the ballet has the compulsive, nightmare feeling of a painting brought to life. The crazed *Woyzeck* is danced by Wayne Eagling with an exhibition of non-stop movement which leaves him gasping. "It's the running", he explains. The drum major is danced by Stephen Jefferies and *Woyzeck's* beautiful but disloyal love by Alessandra Ferri. *Ritual and Seduction* are here made into dance. At one point Ferri becomes Mary Magdalene washing the feet of Christ. The music, *Verklaerte Nacht* by Schoenberg, dictates the almost romantic feel of the piece, preceded by Webern's *Passacaglia*. MacMillan likes the "shock" that comes with transition from one piece of music to another. The visual inspiration comes from painters such as Munch, George Grosz and pictures of the First World War. His father is not forgotten. "Sculptural" is a word MacMillan uses to describe his ballet.

MacMillan feels ballet should be open to the cross-currents of other art forms and not fossilized in a mould set some 30 years ago. He himself had admired and assimilated Balanchine's work in the 1950s - something he feels some critics are only just doing now.

"A lot of ballet critics have become stuck in an arrested emotional development of the time when they first saw *Swan Lake*... It's funny how I seem to threaten the way they feel about ballet. I'm not trying to pull it down. I'm just going in another direction."

He suggests the short history of British ballet, a mere 50 years or so, as a possible explanation of this sensitivity. At the moment the most classical of all sequences, the fourth act of Petipa's *La*

Bayadère is playing in the same bill as MacMillan's horrific picture of holocaust, *Valley of Shadows*. "Take someone off the street", says MacMillan, "and which ballet would they find most peculiar?" To those who criticize his "step backwards" into the past with such lavish pieces as *Manon*, he states firmly, "What's important is that it's about the human condition".

The dancers for whom he principally creates have a strength of character which reflects his thoughts. "That looks dangerous", he says calmly as Alessandra Ferri drops head downwards from a great height. Her response is to do it again. In the rehearsal room he allows them to join in with ideas, describing it as a "sort of improvisation". Anything else would be like "painting by numbers". In this way, and indeed in his use of time within the structure of his ballets, he has more in common with a film-director than the traditional choreographer who strings steps together. It is no coincidence that many of his ballets have been successfully filmed, including an award-winning version of *Mayerling* by London Weekend Television and a new version of Brecht-Weill's *The Seven Deadly Sins* by Granada to be shown this Easter. Granada also made *A Lot of Happiness*, which showed him choreographing a new ballet. He took nearly as much interest in the position of the camera as the dancers. After ballet, theatre, and after theatre, film?

However after *Woyzeck* he is to direct a Tennessee Williams play, *Kingdom of the Earth*, at the Hampstead Theatre Club. It fits once more into the emotional, obsessive MacMillan category. But Sir Kenneth is not seen as easy to label. Just before I leave, Wandsworth he casually drops the information that the 1986 ballet for Covent Garden will be *The Prince of the Pagodas* with Benjamin Britten's music. In case I hadn't got the point, he adds genially, "A fairy-tale. With tutus..."

"Will it?" gasps his wife. "I didn't know that."

"It's a classical ballet", responds MacMillan firmly and adds in explanation. "After so many dramatic ballets I have to go back to my roots again to revise what I think about classical dancing."

It is another development in the career of a man who in his efforts to express emotion has stretched the classical vocabulary about as far as it will go.

"Some mothers may even be able to bring their children to it", says Sir Kenneth, not exactly threateningly.

Rachel Billington

moreover... Miles Kington

The cars which come with the built-in clients

Today we proudly present our first-ever motoring supplement - a guide to all the new cars that have appeared on the market in recent months, with performance notes and expert summing up.

Austin Mitchell. The Austin Mitchell is a splendid little run-about model built in Britain which, though not particularly glamorous, gets through a terrific amount of work. Very popular in the Westminster, though not with the Government. Versatile, adaptable and, with more speed, could be a winner. Much featured on television, if not very recently. Highly recommended, but read the small print carefully.

Newcastle Metro. This Geordie product cost a tremendous amount of money in the development stage and many people said it should not be built at all, but now everyone agrees that it is absolutely wonderful, even if nobody seems quite sure what for. The only drawback seems to be that it will not work more than two miles outside Newcastle, but if you live in the middle of Newcastle and don't get

about much, this should prove no problem.

David Jensen. A small, zappy sports model. American import. Uncomplicated, pleasant.

It calculates the cost to the client

Fiat Justitia. The first ever car made specially for lawyers. The furnishing is deluxe, with leather upholstery, leather bookshelves, well-stocked drinks cabinet and servant in attendance. It is equipped with concealed cameras which, in case of an accident, will immediately record conclusive and damning evidence about any other vehicle involved. What will appeal most to lawyers, though is the sophisticated computer-meter which calculates the cost to the client of any mile driven whether on business or not.

We had it test-driven by a lawyer for an hour in central London and he pronounced it quite satisfactory, though not till about five months later. He charged £140 for the service.

Renault Nevada. Another model which may be of use

to lawyers, this provides an instant divorce and no questions asked. The makers only guarantee it for two years, after which it may break down at any moment. There is ample room for any amount of children, but only one parent.

Chateau Talbot. A pleasant, quite classy red model, which seems to get better as time goes on. The revolutionary glass body gives all-round vision, but is dangerous in accidents. The cork front end has a safety lead lining; this has so far escaped criticism from the environmental lobby.

Lancia's "Monarch of the Glen". A sturdy Victorian-style model which is widely seen in Scotland. Not pretty but effective.

Pearl or clear and plugs into mains

Mazda 100W. Available in pearl or clear this model is one of the revolutionary electric types now coming on to the market. Beautifully streamlined. Main disadvantages are that it has to be plugged into the mains. Also in 40, 60, 150 and 200 watts.

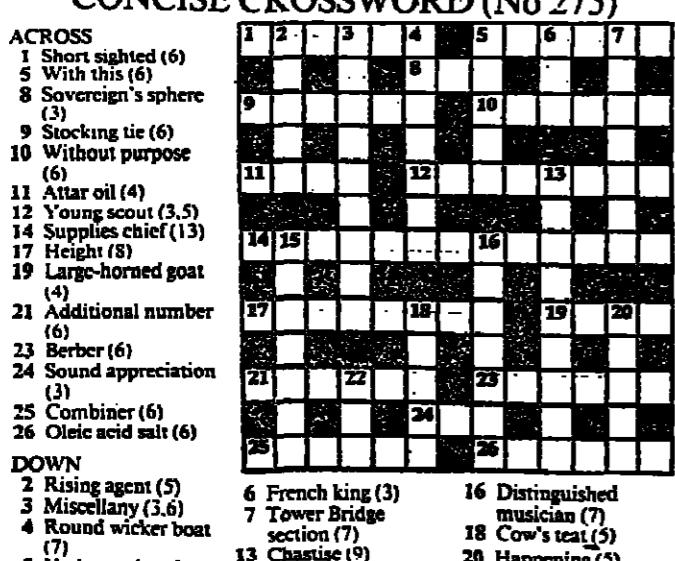
Newcomen Society. A new estate car from Morris, this is ideal for team expeditions for any game involving nine players. Unfortunately, the only one they have discovered so far is rowing (eight men plus cox) and there is no accommodation for oars or boat.

Bedford Commercial de Luxe. This stately model, the so-called Woburn, is not particularly different from other super-vans, with one exception: each model is personally driven by the Duke of Bedford, with whom the driver can then have a private dinner afterwards. Bring your own napkins.

Opel Suites. Luxurious new German model in distinctive square shape and five different flavours: lime, strawberry, orange, strawberry and strawberry.

(Next week we road-test the flashy new yellow French car, the Clio Presto).

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 275)

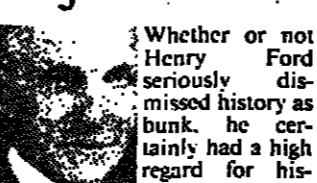


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FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: History of technology

The value of junk



Whether or not

Henry Ford

seriously dis-

missed history as

junk, he cer-

tainly had a high

regard for his

historical

junk, because he amassed the largest

collection of steam

artefacts in the world at his

museum in Dearborn,

Detroit. Ford can thus be

regarded as one of the first and

most successful practitioners

of industrial archaeology, that

branch of the history of

technology concerned with

the examination and interpretation

of the physical evidence of

industrialization - even for the

comparatively recent history of

the Industrial Revolution - is

now widely accepted, and it has

stimulated important research

in such subjects as the develop-

ment of iron and steel processes,

the typology of textile mills,

and the evolution of artisan

housing. It has also encouraged

the growth of exciting new open

air museums, as well as many

interesting ventures in local

industrial history in more

traditional museums.

These problems. They may be

able to suggest some possible

solutions from the historical

records, such as the hot-air

engine, an invention which

worked well but was unable to

compete with internal combus-

tion when oil was cheap. It

could become competitive,

however, as oil fuels grow more

expensive and as environmental

issues such as the avoidance of

pollution are taken more

seriously.

Giant age

Engineers have played a vital

part in the process of rapid

industrialization over the

past two centuries, so that interest in

them, both individually and

collectively, has become a

prominent feature of studies in

the history of technology. It is a

curious fact, however, that most

recent works of biographical



THE TIMES DIARY

Against all odds

When John Z. DeLorean, the failed motor manufacturer whose crash cost British taxpayers millions of pounds, appears in court in Los Angeles on March 6, he might care to reflect on the words used over his picture when he appeared in a Cutty Sark whisky advertisement a year or two ago. "One out of every 100 new businesses succeeds," the copy said. "Here's to those who take the odds." Then, of course, there were the US magazine ads for the DeLorean cars: "Live the dream." DeLorean lived the business dream and took the odds from the very beginning, according to Ivan Fallon and James Srodes, whose book *DeLorean* is just out in paperback. At 23, fresh from business school, DeLorean set up a telephone directory advertising venture, closing it down after one day following complaints from the phone company and police inquiries. Fallon and Srodes found the story in a 1948 copy of the *Detroit Times*. They say that if the paper hadn't folded, the British government might have been alerted and have held on to the £85m it gave DeLorean to start his car factory in Belfast. DeLorean, as well as being in the midst of bankruptcy proceedings, is facing trial on cocaine smuggling charges.

Flying tonight

The Flying Tigers are a bunch of engaging and amiable aeronauts whose enthusiasm for anything to do with aviation knows no bounds. Their fervour was demonstrated at their annual dinner in the Hilton at (where else?) Gatwick. The menus were thoughtfully printed with dotted lines and instructions which, if carefully followed, produced paper aeroplanes.

• The Government's official handbook for its information officers has turned up some little gems as usual. There is Miss Lightfoot of the Sports Council and watch out for Mr Porter of British Rail (Eastern Region) and Mr Crump, Department of Transport.

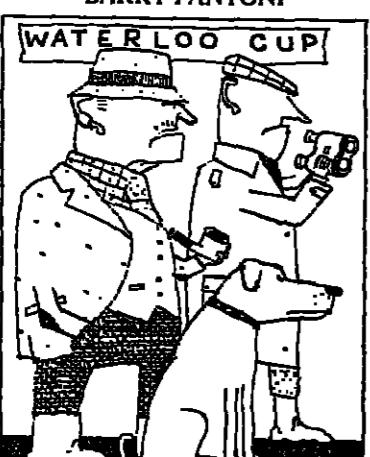
Water polo?

Prince Charles, in Brunei for that country's independence celebrations this week, has been allotted particularly appropriate digs — a country house called The Bungalow in the grounds of the world's most exclusive polo club. Membership of the Jerudong Park club depends — like most other things in Brunei — on the approval of the Sultan. Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah. Club officials are reticent about the fees and the number of members, but I can tell you that Jerudong has 230 playing ponies, all owned by the Sultan. It is unlikely, in these happy circumstances, that the prince will not indulge in his favourite sport, though if he does he may not be popular in certain quarters. "It will probably ruin the pitches," says the Sultan's stable master, Kevin Moore. The park has been waterlogged for four months because of monsoon rains. Still, if a prince and a sultan want to play polo, who's going to argue?

Name dropping

From polo to yachting, and a very special memento of last year's America's Cup that Sotheby's will auction in aid of Unicef next Thursday. *The Challenge 1983* is a handsome, 300-page, limited edition record of the competition put together by eight top yachting writers and lavishly illustrated. Bound in hide and gold embossed, the 1,000 copies are selling at £65, but the Sotheby's book has already attracted a bid of £1,000. What makes it special apart from the fact that it is copy No 1, is the autograph it contains: John Bertrand, the winning Australian skipper, and his prime minister, Bob Hawke; Pierre Trudeau, on behalf of the Canadian team; and the Duke of Edinburgh and Peter de Savary, mastermind of the British effort. No signature, though, from the New York Yacht Club, which saw the America's Cup disappear from its masterpiece for the first time in 132 years.

BARRY FANTONI



Falklands fun

More news from the Falklands front. Entertainment being at a premium, RAF pilots amuse themselves by flying parallel to beaches containing large penguin colonies. The penguins, apparently hypnotised, follow the planes to and fro with their eyes like centre court crowds at Wimbledon. Then the fearless flyers approach head-on, the penguins crane their necks until... sudden collapse backwards of thousands of stout parties.

PHS

Towards a wider peace



If we think of the Atlantic alliance in human terms, we see a man of full awareness, with full physical and intellectual powers.

As a baby he was rather weak, and many doctors shook their heads in doubt and scepticism. But he grew from strength to strength, until every anxiety was silenced. His degree thesis, the challenge of liberty, was respected even by his declared opponents.

He has developed his social relationships, widened the circle of his knowledge and, most important, has preserved the security of the western world. Today he faces his most difficult task, the challenge of peace.

The alliance has no precedent.

In this, the most ideological century in history, it guarantees the safety of all its members while allowing them to



Continuing our series on 35 years of Nato, Bettino Craxi, Italian Prime Minister, sees a relaxation of East-West tension as a prerequisite for limiting local wars in Africa and Asia and making Third World aid more effective

Not much good was done by the sudden, over-evasive love for the Arab world (a love which to many smelt of oil) which the major European countries began to show after 1967, forgetting their earlier attitudes in favour of Israel. This alienated Israel, thus losing the European nation the opportunity to play a moderating part and leaving this task to the USA.

In the 35 years since its inception, the protagonists and the setting — notably the boundaries of the East-West confrontation — have changed. As early as 1956, an alarm bell was rung at the outbreak of the Suez crisis, which resulted not only in a dispute between allies — the United States on one side and France and Britain on the other — but also an abrupt break between the West and the Arab world. The subsequent Arab-Israeli wars accentuated the awareness of the dangerous consequences which an open confrontation with the Arab world would have on the political and economic security of the West. That awareness became a dramatic realization of importance in the 1973 conflict.

None of these declarations stopped the course of events. Destabilization processes continue to assail many countries in Asia and

Africa, spheres of influence have continued to change and to extend, and the dividing line of the East-West confrontation remains as changing and unstable as ever.

What shall we do? Clearly we cannot give up. Equally clearly, if the whole weight of the alliance is periodically moved over these changing boundaries, the result can only be an intensification of international conflict, condemning local disputes to perpetuity.

This leads us to ask: Is a global vision more useful than a regional view of individual conflicts? Does European and American policy coincide towards the individual countries of Asia and Africa? What relation is there between a stable western policy and the instability and unpredictability of some governments of these countries?

In seeking an answer to these questions, we see an obvious need for improved East-West relations, which would greatly assist in limiting local conflicts and taking most of the danger out of them.

We are living through a critical stage in our relations with the Soviet bloc. Detente should not become a

simple memory. One general consideration must be kept in mind: is it possible to think that world peace can be maintained by an increasingly intense and sophisticated balance of terror? Can the world live by inventing increasingly complicated and terrible instruments of offence and by inventing equally complicated devices for defence?

I want to assert my conviction of the need to change course, of the impossibility of continuing on our present road indefinitely. I am not thinking about a situation in which one of the two contestants will put up his hands in surrender (the solidarity shown by the West with regard to the Soviet SS20 speaks for itself). I am thinking of an agreed, controlled change of direction; a reduction in armament that cannot be achieved if we argue over who was initially responsible for the arms race.

When *The Times* invited me to take part in the debate on the future of Nato, it asked me to "think aloud, even the unimaginable". Well, it is impossible to imagine an East-West agreement to renounce strategic and military advantages outside the area of the Atlantic Pact or the Warsaw Pact? Is it impossible to imagine an East-West understanding on the quantity, quality and nature of aid to the developing countries of the Third World? Is it impossible to imagine consistent activity aimed at preventing a war economy taking the place of a peace economy in all these countries, or death and degradation required a government to be radical and take risks, he built his argument on the assertion that the present British government is in the vanguard of a movement against collectivism sweeping through the democratic countries.

Who, he asked, now believed that the Government could permanently change the real world by pulling monetary or fiscal levers, or by planning and controls? Who seriously argues that a bigger public sector and more public spending offer the best chance of economic and social progress? Likewise, the idea that workers could strike themselves into higher pay without destroying jobs was as outmoded as yesterday's educational fashion for social engineering or the belief that state subsidies and planning were the best way of providing housing.

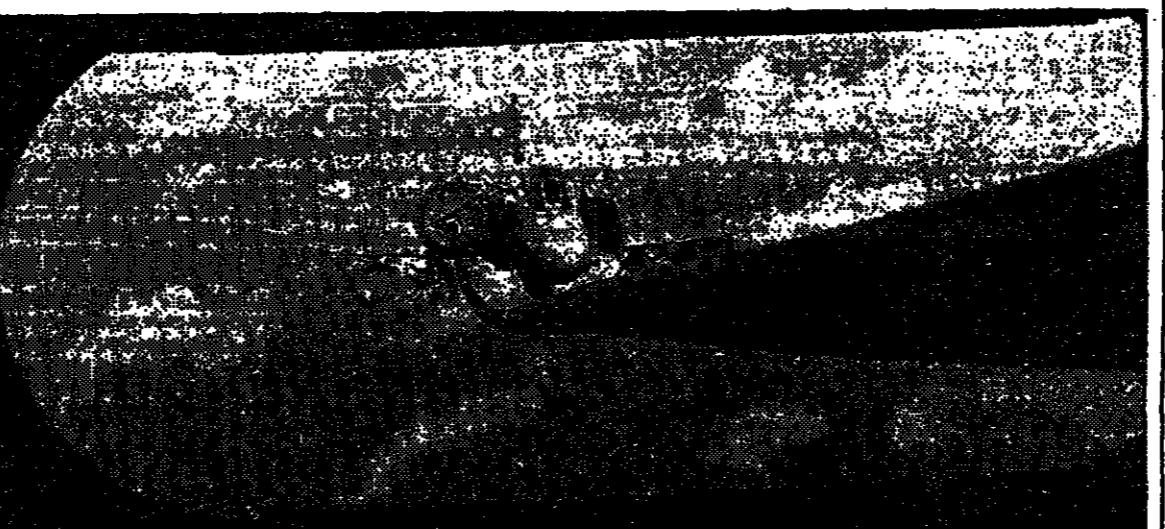
Mr Brittan went on to argue that the pursuit of equality through collective (by which he presumably means state) action creates poverty, injustice and often corruption. The belief of the liberal Conservative in "the social market economy" is a belief in the individual's ability to better himself, and through the market, to better others too. The Government's most important goal was therefore to "make markets work".

Here we come to the nub of his argument. He glided over the private sector, presumably because where there is no monopoly, markets work well to the extent that they are not inhibited by taxation or distorted by subsidies (about which he had nothing to say.) But he observed that in the public sector the effects of markets should be "simulated" wherever possible. If markets worked better, well-paid employment, sustainable growth and better welfare would follow.

But, of course, this means no more than that greater financial discipline and more efficient management should be applied to the public sector whose size, in respect

Rodney Cowton, recently returned from the South Atlantic, asks what the British taxpayer can expect in return for an outlay of £3,000m over five years

Striking a Falklands balance



Where some of the money goes: a patrolling Phantom is refuelled by a Hercules tanker plane over the exclusion zone and (below) sappers clear away battlefield debris at Murray Heights, near Port Stanley

The price to the British taxpayer of the Argentine invasion of the Falklands will be about £3,000m. This was finally confirmed last week with the publication of the Government's spending plans up to 1987. These showed spending on garrisoning the islands and on replacing military equipment lost in the 1982 conflict coming to about £1,700m in the next three years, on top of the £1,400m spent in the last two years.

These huge defence costs dwarf the sums set aside for civil projects: £15m to make good the war damage, and £31m to be spent over six years on development.

Nearly two years after the conflict it is appropriate to ask what the long-term benefits will be — or whether the Government has been forced to drop £3,000m into a Falklands peat bog without hope of a return.

The Government's position undoubtedly will remain that it had no alternative but to respond as it did to the invasion and that this overrode narrow calculations of cost. But as the glow of military victory fades, the Government's position would be helped if it could point to continuing benefits arising from this spending. After all, political principles are routinely abandoned long before the cost of upholding them reaches the Falklands' level, which represents £300,000 a year for five years for every man, woman and child on the island.

The Government does point to some gains from the military victory: Britain's enhanced standing in the world and the West's greater credibility in Soviet eyes. The Services will benefit because lost ships and other hardware are being replaced by more advanced equipment.

However, these are mere spin-offs, and other direct benefits would have to be sought either in developments in the islands themselves, or in the wider advantages of retaining a foothold in the South Atlantic.

It seems unlikely that economic and social advances in the Falklands will greatly affect Britain.

Before the conflict, the Falklands economy was in long-term decline, and the most that seems in prospect now is that the decline may be arrested and a minimum level of sustainable activity be achieved.

Both the Falklands society and economy are extremely fragile, though they provide a way of life which the 1,800 islanders value.

Some idea of this fragility, and of the lack of basic services is conveyed by the following facts:

• The only large-scale economic activity is sheep farming, but the terrain, as it is present managed, is so poor that it supports only one sheep to about four or five half acres, as against four or five sheep to the acre on intensively managed good quality grassland in Britain.

• There are virtually no roads outside the only significant township, Port Stanley, with its population of about 900, though one is being constructed to the new airport.

• The Falklands society and economy are extremely fragile, though they provide a way of life which the 1,800 islanders value.

• Government revenue from the sale of stamps is at present comparable to that from income tax and company tax combined.

As our table shows, most of the recommendations by Lord Shackleton for the development of the islands are being implemented, though he did not see this leading to a growth of more than 500 in the population in this decade.

The two major Shackleton recommendations not being implemented are a radical and rapid break-up of the large landholdings of absentees (instead a policy is being adopted of gradual subdivision as land comes on the market), and the creation of a 200-mile fishery zone, which is still under consideration by the Foreign Office, but for which the Government shows no enthusiasm.

There is concern among the islanders that roughly three-quarters of the development funds are being spent on improving the infrastructure, leaving, in the view of many, too little to be spent on revenue-generating projects.

It is because of this that the islanders are campaigning hard for the establishment of the fishery zone, which they think would enable them to generate £3m a year from licensing fees and services to foreign trawlers.

Hopes of major oil exploration in the South Atlantic have been relegated to the distant future. Despite the entrancing wildlife, particularly on the outlying islands, the scope for the development of

any substantial level of tourist activity seems limited.

It would have been easy for the Government to have stimulated something of a boom, no doubt soon to be followed by soaring inflation, by opening to the islanders highly paid employment on building the new airport and other big civil engineering projects. Instead these jobs have mostly gone to unemployed from the U.K., with locals being involved scarcely at all.

The Government seems to have decided on a policy of limited and gradual development, preserving the islanders' way of life and insulating them as far as possible from the impact of the military presence.

This is an enlightened and realistic approach, but it constitutes a minimal return for the expenditure of £3,000m.

That means that any large

The Shackleton Report, 1982*

Recommendation Action
£30m-£35m should be made available for £31m being provided over six years.

A Falkland Island Development Council should be established, and a chief executive appointed last November.

Government should purchase all farms of absentee landlords "as soon as feasible."

Establishment of a 200-mile fishery zone.

8,500-ft runway should be constructed.

Deepwater jetty should be constructed at Port Stanley.

£3m-£5m should be allocated to improving roads in the countryside.

*Falkland Islands Economic Study, 1982. Command No 8653. HMSO, £7.50

simple memory. One general consideration must be kept in mind: is it possible to think that world peace can be maintained by an increasingly intense and sophisticated balance of terror? Can the world live by inventing increasingly complicated and terrible instruments of offence and by inventing equally complicated devices for defence?

I want to assert my conviction of the need to change course, of the impossibility of continuing on our present road indefinitely. I am not thinking about a situation in which one of the two contestants will put up his hands in surrender (the solidarity shown by the West with regard to the Soviet SS20 speaks for itself).

It was a speech (delivered to the Institute of Directors) which deserves close analysis, not least in respect of the terminology on which Mr Brittan hung his argument. He was helped, in the first place, by being able to adopt and to reject the caricature drawn by opponents who see the radicals as (in his words) "champing at the bit to abolish the welfare state" and the consolidators as "replete with traditional wisdom, holding them back."

Mr Brittan was careful not to tread in a political quagmire by defining what the argument is really about since this would presumably have required him to describe radicals as those who wish to reform the welfare state, not to abolish it, and consolidators as those who believe that its present structure is politically sacrosanct. Instead, having observed that political success required a government to be radical and take risks, he built his argument on the assertion that the present British government is in the vanguard of a movement against collectivism sweeping through the democratic countries.

Who, he asked, now believed that the Government could permanently change the real world by pulling monetary or fiscal levers, or by planning and controls? Who seriously argues that a bigger public sector and more public spending offer the best chance of economic and social progress? Likewise, the idea that workers could strike themselves into higher pay without destroying jobs was as outmoded as yesterday's educational fashion for social engineering or the belief that state subsidies and planning were the best way of providing housing.

In Britain we absurdly dismiss these questions as though what was at issue was how much the state should spend on welfare instead of how the welfare services should be run, and what the role of the state should be. Those who want reform of the structure of the welfare state do not do so because they wish total spending on welfare or education to be less, but because they believe that a reformed system in which the state manages less would give better results and might even lead to the application of more resources to these essentials.

Mr Brittan is right to stress how much the Government has done to recreate economic financial discipline but the idea of the social market is something different. Only when he talks of the Government's interest in greater competition in the professions and reform of the labour market is he really speaking of the market. The most promising weight in his speech were about the need to revive the market in privately rented accommodation which could do much for labour mobility and therefore unemployment. But the Government is really vening to tackle the Rent Acts?

Here we come to the nub of his argument. He glided over the private sector, presumably because where there is no monopoly, markets work well to the extent that they are not inhibited by taxation or distorted by subsidies (about which he had nothing to say.) But he observed that in the public sector the effects of markets should be "simulated" wherever possible. If markets worked better, well-paid employment, sustainable growth and better welfare would follow.

But, of course, this means no more than that greater financial discipline and more efficient management should be applied to the public sector whose size, in respect

Ronald Butt

To stimulate or simulate?

of the welfare services, is not to be reduced. To use the word "market" in this sense is misleading since it means anything which involves competition between rivals.

It is, of course perfectly true that the Government has achieved more industrial privatization than any of its predecessors and that it has introduced a genuine market element into state services by (for example) contracting out of health service laundry or cleaning. But all this is still only marginal. The deeper question is whether the size of the public sector can be significantly reduced, and the truth of the matter seems to be that it cannot. The text for that is not in the imagination of the media but in Mrs Thatcher's interview with Brian Walden on January 15 when she was quite clear that public spending could be held but not reduced.

This is the origin of the belief that the consolidators (of whom Mrs Thatcher is one) now run the ship. Stimulating markets in the public sector by efficiency mechanisms is not the same as creating markets outside state control, for the simple reason that state management without competition always ends towards bureaucratic inefficiency and because a later, non-Thatcher government could abandon the present financial discipline.

In much the same way, the Government tends to measure the term "social market" which in its German sense implies a state which guarantees the framework of social insurance but which does not run the welfare services as a state-managed monopoly.

In Britain we absurdly dismiss these questions as though what was at issue was how much the state should spend on welfare instead of how the welfare services



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HOW TO SPOIL A GOOD THING

At just this stage in any economic recovery, Britain characteristically begins to dissipate its energies in an increase in pay and prices rather than production. There are two good reasons to hope that 1984 may prove to be the golden, non-inflationary exception — but another two reasons to fear that pay is already beginning to cause trouble.

For once, during this recovery, Britain is free of the pent-up pressures held and then released by incomes policies, whose normal pattern has been two years of pay restraint followed by a catch-up year in which the benefits are thrown away. There are no wraps to come off earnings in the private sector, and therefore no reason, on this score, to expect the kind of pay scramble experienced in 1974 or 1979. What is more, since private industry has suddenly discovered the meaning of productivity, the present rate of increase in earnings is being translated into very modest increases in labour costs and hence prices. First indications are that this productivity revolution is continuing right through the recovery, when many economists feared it might begin to peter out.

As the deputy governor of the Bank of England pointed out in a major speech last night, productivity has been rising much faster, recently, than in other major economies — improving our cost competitiveness by a healthy 25 per cent since the nadir of 1981. But he took the opportunity to sound a warning too. Some of the improvement has been used to rebuild profits rather than hold down prices. That is valuable, so long as those profits are now used to boost investment. If not, there is a danger that they will be drained away in higher wage increases.

Pay rises in industry have not followed price inflation down to

4 per cent—5 per cent. Instead the rise in earnings has got stuck at about 8 per cent; in manufacturing, the increase is now just under 10 per cent. Admittedly, this reflects the productivity increases and surge in overtime common in the early stages of an economic recovery, which are normally followed by a rise in employment when the possibilities of increasing existing workers' overtime have been exhausted. Pay settlements are running at lower levels. But the figures are still too high. They mean real wages are continuing to rise at a time when Britain, and its three million unemployed in particular, are more clearly in need of still greater improvements in cost competitiveness to reverse a poor performance in manufactured trade.

There is another sense in which industrial pay rises are beginning to cause trouble. In the early stages of the recession, public-sector workers did unfairly well. Since then the Government has been trying to force public service wage increases down, year by year, both to control public spending and as a signal to private sector employers. For this coming year, its public sector "pay factor" is only 3 per cent, which means that increases over and above this figure will have to be squeezed out of cash limits either by cutting staff numbers or by cutting other kinds of spending (eg. on schoolbooks or office computers). This year's spending figures provide a little elbow-room for over-spending on pay, but not much. The Government's favoured special cases, such as the police (and, notoriously, the judiciary) can easily mop up the spare cash. So pay increases of 4 per cent—5 per cent for the mass of public service employees could place a real strain on public spending control, while still leaving these

employees with a growing grievance that they are falling behind the private sector in the pay race.

None of these "comparability" effects is instant or automatic. But history shows that driving wages in the public and private sectors too far apart tends to be self-destructive, being followed all too often, as in 1974 and 1979, by catch-up claims the politicians find hard to resist. This is no argument for giving up the attempt to force down wage increases in the public sector. It is a reason for great concern about wage increases in private industry.

The lesson for industrialists, and the Chancellor, is clear. Unlike 1981 or 1982, this coming Budget is not one in which industry should hope for massive expenditure to lower industrial costs. There is far too much danger that windfall cash in industry's hands would feed straight through into higher pay rises. With a higher level of profits, the road to investment and expansion lies open to British industry. In a free market economy, it is up to management to seize the opportunity to sound a warning too. Some of the improvement has been used to rebuild profits rather than hold down prices. That is valuable, so long as those profits are now used to boost investment. If not, there is a danger that they will be drained away in higher wage increases.

Pay rises in industry have not followed price inflation down to

DEMOCRATS IN SEARCH OF A CHAMPION

It is really asking too much of people to insist that no big conclusions should be drawn from Senator Mondale's victory in the Iowa Democratic caucuses. Of course, on a rational level it is true. Only 85,000 people voted in a state of nearly three million and fewer than half of those who voted chose Mr Mondale. Unlike a primary, the caucuses do not involve formal voting by all registered members of a given party. They consist of small meetings of the party faithful in precincts, so their results should tell us even less about the public mood than do primaries. Mr Mondale was therefore building a castle on a pinhead when he announced amid the jubilation of his supporters that "tonight is the beginning of the end of the Reagan administration".

However, at this early stage the election campaign is not just about numbers; it is about images, emotions and organization. There can be no doubt that victory in Iowa has given Mr Mondale a very big lift towards the Democratic nomination. It also helps him in his efforts to show that Mr Reagan is not invincible, especially as opinion polls indicate that he would beat Mr Reagan in Iowa.

Political pundits are now saying that Mr Mondale nearly has the Democratic nomination sewn up. If he does well in New Hampshire the assumption will probably become irreversible. This is not necessarily because

Mr Mondale is seen as the best man to be president. It is more because he has put together a political machine of formidable size and efficiency and has raised the funds to finance it. No other Democratic candidate can rival him in this respect.

What he has done is to seize the new fragmented structure of American politics and turn it to his advantage. Since power is no longer in the hands of the local party machines it is not enough to win the support of local party bosses. They cannot deliver their votes in the way they used to. They have been superseded by interest groups devoted to single issues or the concerns of limited sections of the population. Equipped with very refined computerized mailing lists they can mobilize their supporters across the nation on behalf of whichever candidate they regard as most sympathetic to their cause.

Mr Mondale has gone after them with the same single-minded dedication that previous candidates brought to the pursuit of big city and state bosses. He has won the support of the labour unions (with thirteen million names on their mailing list), the National Organization for Women, the National Education Association, the Black Alabama Democratic Conference, and more.

This looks like the obvious road to success at any rate as far as the nomination, but there is

always the risk of a reaction. The modest but significant achievements of Senator Hart and Mr McGovern in Iowa (more than a quarter of the votes between them) show that there is still a demand for a clearer stand on principles and broad issues. Mr McGovern represents the old liberal heart of the party. Mr Hart is its new young head, which has re-thought many of the old liberal assumptions about the role of the state in redistributing wealth. Mr Mondale, by attempting to be all things to all men, risks becoming blurred and too much associated with the high spending and high taxes that would be required to placate all his interest groups at the same time.

Hence there is still a role for

the other candidates in pressing

for clarification of Mondale's

positions. Senator Glenn may

now be out of it, the victims as

much of a very poorly run

campaign as of his rather

lacklustre conservative image.

Senator Hart, on the other hand,

although extremely unlikely to

get within sight of the nomination, is young enough to be

thinking of next time. He can

therefore play a useful role at this

stage by reminding the party that

politics is not just about interest

groups, mailing lists and organiza-

tion but also about broader

national social and foreign

issues. He will lose but he could

lose in a way that does some

service to his party and leaves

him with credit for the future.

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution is a standing commission whose irregular reports jog government departments and inform educated opinion, which maintains a lively concern about modern man's propensity to foul his planetary nest. The commission generally reports and makes recommendations about particular topics, air pollution, nuclear power, oil in the sea, lead... Its tenth report, published yesterday, is more of a *tour d'horizon*, and it is unquestionably useful to have the commission's account of the latest state of play in subjects big and small, from straw burning to melting of the polar ice-caps.

Acid rain is at present in the forefront of environmental debate in northern Europe. The commission, which prefers to call it acid deposition since it may be wet or dry, is not yet ready with detailed recommendations. But it classes it as "one of the most important pollution issues of the present time" and accords it a high priority for research into its causes and effects as well as remedial measures. That form of pollution illustrates very clearly the trans-national character of any effec-

tive programme of preventive measures. The cost of removing a source of pollution may fall in one country while the cost of not removing it may fall in several others. Another global atmospheric threat comes from the increase in the concentration of carbon dioxide. The increase is caused mainly by deforestation, much more by the burning of fossil fuels. The carbon dioxide traps heat within the atmosphere by reflecting back radiation that would otherwise be lost into space. The higher the concentration the higher the temperature becomes with the consequence of major climatic changes. The royal commission concludes that we can be certain that carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere are increasing, and we can be fairly confident that that the earth's atmosphere will be warmer as a result. There is less certainty about the magnitude and distribution of the effects. But they are potentially serious enough to lead the commission on to its most important, and probably most controversial, conclusion.

Uncertainty about the cli-

matic, and therefore physical,

economic and social effects, of

continued reliance on fossil fuels as the principal source of energy, makes it imperative, in the commission's view, to have alternative energy strategies — that is to say alternative combinations of fossil, nuclear and renewable source uses — so that a switch might be made if the "greenhouse effect" looked like becoming really troublesome. Thus it is that despite the environmental problems of a different kind attendant on nuclear power generation the commission supports "a modest increase" in nuclear power capacity in order to give flexibility and as part of a strategy for reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Nuclear waste disposal, which

was singled out in a report by the

royal commission six years ago

as a brake upon the development

of nuclear power because of its

technical inadequacy, is not re-

examined in its technical aspect

in this report. That is a pity in

view of the commission's advocacy of nuclear expansion, however modest, and the impression one derives from elsewhere that the technical and environmental

problems surrounding nuclear

waste disposal are far from being

solved out.

A new way with political funds

From Mr John C. Griffiths

Sir: Deplorable as Sugar Daddy political funding may be, members of other parties, while condemning the connivance between Tories and Socialists to preserve their own sources of involuntary contributions, should not crow too loudly.

In recent times as much as a third of Liberal Party political funds have derived from one or two individual benefactors. It is both humiliating and undemocratic for the elected leadership of a political party to have to go on begging for contributions to whimsical benefactors as I have done, simply to ensure the party's survival.

We have in general been fortunate in that these benefactors have rarely tried to tie political or organisational strings to their gifts. More importantly, and I believe the most significant reform within the Liberal Party during the year of my presidency, the annual assembly at Harrogate for the first time abjured private patronage in favour of a member-based system of funding the rest of the public sector.

While it would be too much to

expect the Conservative and Labour parties to give up their business and union sources of funds altogether, it

might be more difficult for them to resist proposals for a reasonable limit on their exactions.

Two simple reforms would do much to strengthen the independence of our parliamentary democracy: a ceiling of £5,000 a year on the sum any individual or organisation, including companies and trades unions, could give to a political party or spend on the pursuit of a political party's objectives or the election of its candidates; and a pound for pound matching from state funds of the voluntary contributions raised by any party securing 5 per cent of the national vote, or, where appropriate, the regional vote.

Yours etc,
J. C. GRIFFITHS (Immediate Past President, Liberal Party),
Llwynyfran,
Pontfaen,
Brecon, Powys.

The system is neither a closed nor a secret one. No application to join

Letters to the Editor

Unity of interests in Antarctica

From Sir Donald Logan

Sir: If the rôle of the states who are consultative parties to the Antarctic Treaty is to be fairly assessed, more needs to be said in their defence than has so far appeared in your correspondence (February 4, 8, 13 and 16).

From recent observation, I can confirm that Antarctica is still "a vast beautiful wilderness, the domain of its wildlife and its scientists". Had there been no Antarctic Treaty it might have been different, as two or three previous correspondents have said. But as the rules of the old whaling stations still visible there testify, the presence of man and the dynamic of his activity are a reality and necessitate protective management if the nature and the peace of Antarctica are to be preserved.

To qualify as a consultative party a state must be engaged in substantial scientific research in Antarctica. Collectively the consultative parties form a repository of knowledge and experience of this unique and critical continent. For practical reasons alone that would seem to impose on them a major responsibility for prudent management. Acceptance of that responsibility led them to develop the Antarctic Treaty system.

These states are not engaged in a cut-and-thrust. They are not disposing of resources and are not asserting exclusive rights to anything. The treaty gives them none. All that their conclusions and recommendations can do is to impose restrictions on their own conduct in Antarctica. They are there, and see the need for both evolution and restraint. They cannot bind others, though they can hope that their example in self-restraint will command itself to others so long as it is seen to be soundly based.

Environmental protection is the foremost consideration. It was in the living resources convention already negotiated and it is, I have no doubt, in the current negotiations about the distant possibility of mineral exploitation. Yours sincerely,
DONALD LOGAN,
6 Thorle Street SW7.
February 20.

Countryside heritage

From Lord Melchett

Sir: Amid his concern over whether those of us who wrote condemning the destruction of hedgerows and wild flowers in Essex should have addressed our letter (February 6) "as from" of "from" this farm, Lord Hampden (February 8) suggests that wild flowers are safe on the Sussex Downs and elsewhere because farmers have cared for them over centuries.

In fact, as the Government's Nature Conservancy Council has recently said, since 1949 about 95 per cent of lowland herb-rich hay meadows have been destroyed, along with the hundreds of thousands of acres of moorland, downland, heathland and ancient lowland woodland already lost, and still being destroyed.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds gave evidence to a House of Lords select committee recently in which they revealed that, according to Ministry of Agriculture statistics, the current annual rate of loss of moorland in England and Wales is over 18,000 hectares, with 58,000 hectares being lost each year in Scotland.

Nor is the downland that Lord Hampden wrote about exempt — 80 per cent of lowland chalk and limestone grasslands have gone since 1949, largely as a result of "conversion to arable or improved grassland", according to the Nature Conservancy Council.

Unfortunately, Lord Hampden's own estate has not been spared from

this depressing catalogue of destruction,

and a considerable acreage of formerly open downland has been ploughed on the Glynde estate, for example, near Mount Caburn.

The farmer we criticized in our

letter is filling in a ditch, where

wild violets and cowslips were

growing, to incorporate it into an

already vast field.

He can therefore play a useful role at this

stage by reminding the party that

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Senator Hart, on the other hand,

although extremely unlikely to

BOOKS

The quiet man who split the atom**Rutherford****Simple Genius**
By David Wilson
(Hodder & Stoughton, £14.95)

Montreal, aged only 27. A sense of scientific isolation, however, - North America was then still a relative backwater - drove him back to Manchester, in 1907, and eventually to the Cavendish, the laboratory which will always be associated with his name, in 1919. It was in Canada, though, that he first routed the hitherto dominant chemists by demonstrating the transmutation of matter by radioactivity, for which he received the Nobel Prize in 1908, ironically, for chemistry. And it was at Manchester, not Cambridge, that he first split the atom.

During the second half of his life, Rutherford increasingly moved out of the laboratory - though the Cavendish remained his base - into a wider sphere of public usefulness, and scientific politics, as the Great Panjandrum of British science. He did important work on anti-submarine techniques in the First World War, and on air defence before the Second; he sat on innumerable government committees and international scientific committees, and (though entirely unpolitical in other respects) committees to help Jewish refugees from Hitler. These multifarious activities, David Wilson believes, have been hitherto neglected, and he devotes a good deal of his long book to documenting them. But the narrative sags while he does so, partly because Rutherford, away from his own subject, was a decent, but exceedingly dull man, partly because Wilson himself is not at home with the world of politics.

Wilson was for 20 years Science Correspondent of the BBC, and his strength lies in expounding Rutherford's work to the layman. Here, his enthusiasm matches and captures Rutherford's. However effective he may have been in other spheres, Rutherford's genius lay in the laboratory, and



Ernest Rutherford 1932 by James Gunn

genius it unquestionably was, consisting in an infinite capacity for taking pains (he was above all an experimental scientist) informed by an extraordinary intuitive sense, an ability to "see" the necessary structure of the invisible atom and to "know" what the answer must be before he could prove it. He loved what he always referred to as "his" alpha-particles, and once called ions "jolly little beggars", so real that I can almost see them!

In this almost Heath Robinson inventiveness, he was wonderfully English - though a New Zealander and a thorough professional, completely in the empirical tradition of the

gentlemen amateurs who had founded the Cavendish. Although he came to terms intellectually and administratively with both, he disliked equally the theoretical/mathematical approach of Einstein, and the continental physicists and the increasingly vast, expensive and sophisticated machinery which large-scale atom-splitting demanded. Even before his death in 1937, American resources had far outstripped the Cavendish. As for the atomic bomb, it was a good thing he did not live to see it. It was not what he was about at all.

John Campbell

Tim Heald reviews thrillers of the month**Rats, moles, worms, and assorted cattle****A Prayer for Fair Weather**
By John Broderick

(Marion Boyars, £7.95)

Supporters of what is rather horribly called "genre fiction" are fond of suggesting that, at its best, it is better than most "literary fiction". For at least the first half of his thriller John Broderick is powerful support for this case. He writes beautifully; thumbnail characterisations and descriptions are lapidarian; he evokes a spooky underworld of misfits and derelicts deftly and convinc-

ingly; and he has a nice sardonic touch. It's a good book. I submit, which begins "No, sir, I'm afraid I don't. There's hardly any demand for rats just now. Might I suggest Harrods?"

But in the end this quirky tale of London terrorism and double dealing in high and low places fails to live up to early expectations, and it does so because it falls victim to the demands of the genre. Action: confrontation; no loose endings; a triumph, ultimately, of coincidence over character. What begins quite eerily and unusually in a pet shop in Victoria ends with run-of-the-mill spy story exchanges about a

"safe office job in Washington" and "a cousin in the Moscow Embassy". Before he becomes bogged down in plot, however, Mr Broderick is reminiscent of good Chesterton, I particularly enjoyed the leader of the terrorist cell based on the gay "Blue Light" whose name was Brendan Tupper, and for the first time in many years it was his real one!"

Deadly Games, by Edward Topol and Friderik Nezamansky (Quartet, £7.95) Full marks for plausibility in this tale of drug smuggling in the Soviet Union. The air of conviction is unsurprising since the authors are both Russian émigrés one of whom once worked in the state prosecutor's office.

Set in 1979 the story gets some of its impetus from the impending Brezhnev-Carter talks in Vienna. These are just a week away from the moment that investigator Shamrayev is called in to deal with the disappearance of one of Russia's leading young journalists, Vadim Belkin of *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. Belkin has been assigned to the official press corps for the Vienna trip and Brezhnev himself wants him along. He has to be found.

The temptation to dwell on this angle is mercifully resisted and instead we get an inexorable unravelling of plot by Shamrayev and his colleague from CID, Lt-Col Svetlov. Belkin, it transpires, has got muddled up in the drug business when he bumps into an old school friend at the airport. The friend barely acknowledges him and Belkin puts this down to grief; for the friend is accompanying a coffin. The coffin is extremely heavy and when it fails to the ground it breaks open to reveal a stash of opium. Belkin becomes determined to write an exposure for his paper and his troubles begin.

The story itself is restrained though never less than competent. What lifts it is the portrait of Russia's black

economy and underground world of graft, viciousness and unacknowledged double dealing.

The Russian Woman, by Tom Hyman. (Hodder and Stoughton, £7.95). If you are going to be silly you might as well do it in style. By the end of Chapter One the Russian Premier has been murdered while travelling in a cavalcade with the American President. Naturally the Russian widow seeks refuge in the White House and the President starts fantasizing about "the firm softness of her thigh". Not long afterwards they are in bed together which is understandable because the President's wife is barking mad, but naturally the Russian widow is an enemy agent, who turns out to be one of ours, only to be revealed as . . .

Bad form to give away too much plot even if it is as wonderfully ludicrous as this one.

Mysterious Railway Stories, Edited by William Patrick (W.H. Allen, £8.95) There are some mystery stories among this baker's dozen. Arnold Ridley and Ruth Alexander's "The Ghost Train" is classic Cornish melodrama. Eden Philpotts' "My Adventures in the Flying Scotsman" is amusingly ponderous; and you couldn't do a railway anthology without Freeman Wills Croft ("In spite of himself, Dunsan Thwaite shivered as he looked at the level crossing"). But the jewel in the crown is Conan Doyle's "The Lost Special".

It is a classic of its kind and, though not a Sherlock Holmes story, intriguing for its letter to *The Times* "over the signature of an amateur reasoner of some celebrity at that date". The reasoner barked up all the wrong trees but produced a characteristic maxim: "It is one of the elementary principles of practical reasoning that when the impossible has been eliminated the residuum, however improbable, must contain the truth."

Discuss.

COUNTRY LIFE

Pattern worth developing John Cornforth looks at the future of Merseyside's museums if the Government's proposal to abolish the Metropolitan County Councils is implemented.

Dormice that go bump in the night. Since moving house, Ian Niall has found that *glis glis*, the edible dormouse, once considered a delicacy by the Romans, makes a noisy resident.

Restoring the SS Great Britain Basil Greenhill describes the progress of restoration work on the world's first large, iron-built, propeller-driven steamship.

Midmost England The facts and folklore surrounding the Forest of Arden, in the heart of Warwickshire, are investigated by Tudor Edwards.

Gardens on the Isle of Wight George Plumptre visits a four-acre garden above Ryde that enjoys the rare luxury of a maritime and virtually frost-free climate.

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Woodrow Wyatt reviews Koestler Master and Dog**Stranger on the Square**
By Arthur and Cynthia Koestler
(Hutchinson, £9.95)

wrote not for instant applause or money but in the justifiable confidence that posterity would value them.

I was fascinated by Koestler's attitude to women since he first stole a girl from me in the war. A steady supply of them was as necessary to him as alcohol which he also consumed in large quantities.

There is no criticism of Koestler's attitude to women since he first stole a girl from me in the war. A steady supply of them was as necessary to him as alcohol which he also consumed in large quantities.

George Nikes has described in *Arthur Koestler, The Story of Friendship*, how he understandably found the progressive Parkinson's disease and leukaemia unbearable when they began to destroy his faculties. It was a civilized decision to commit suicide in March 1983 when he was 77. I wondered then why he had let his 55-year-old healthy, vigorous Cynthia du

she could not have been much surprised. There Koestler writes: "To this day women are the poorest characters in my books. The reason is that I like dining with women, talking, listening and making love to women, but to write about them bores me."

Harold Harris, Koestler's literary executor, has evidently arranged what material there is, which tails off in the late fifties. Cynthia Koestler kept a diary from 1961 to 1974 recording further details of their joint life. I hope Mr Harris assumes a book out of it. Obviously her writing is not comparable to her husband's but she has much of interest about his methods of working, his odd beliefs, his causes, his up and down moods, his charm, and what he was getting at in his books which he

understand why.

On the morning of the suicide, according to Nikes, she took their much loved dog to the vet to be put down. Whether he wished it or not she was determined to go with Arthur, in his last years he became dependent on her, and with uncommon graciousness he had acknowledged her importance to him, making their relationship more even.

But she could not face the pointlessness of life without her last master. Though it was neither his intention nor expectation that she, too, should kill herself it would have been a cruelty for him to have forbidden her. It was the original and noble version of *soror*.

Elaine Feinstein on fiction Letters to my love**The Shelf**
By Kay Dick
(Hamish Hamilton, £7.50)**The Stories of Bernard Malamud**
(Chano, £12.50)

The quiet elegance of Kay Dick's latest novel depends for its authority upon the voice of her narrator, Cass, identified as a woman, yet writing of her passion for a dead girl with all the straightforward simplicity of a male lover. It is one of the very few accounts of ambivalent sexuality which bypass the claim to normalcy for the needs so aroused. All the feelings belong to any other pair of bewildered lovers.

We are prepared for this cleverly enough, by casting the story in the form of a letter to an intimate friend. It is therefore easy to reveal that a man (with whom Cass had a brief affair) has already declared: "You'd have preferred it if I'd been a woman". And yet even so, for a moment, the reader blinks, doubting for a moment whether it is the relationship with the man that is homosexual.

Anne, a beautiful girl once married and now separated, has something of the quality of a courtesan. Her letters have an oddly manipulative cleverness, flattering offering disarming hesitation. And her erotic presence plunges Cass into a whirlpool of desire which she does not welcome. Anne has had other lovers, who have been men; it is not a relevant issue in their intense, problematical relationship. Even jealousy hurts neither more nor less when Cass discovers a contemporary rival is a male. This short, fierce, intelligent novel is as subtly accurate about the aphrodisiac effects of Lesbian love as it is

1. Charley Fortnum, from *The Honorary Consul*, by Graham Greene.
2. Brig. Ben Ritchie-Hook, from *Sword of Honour* (3 novels) by Evelyn Waugh.
3. Jenny Bunn and Patrick Standish, from *Take a Girl Like You*, by Kingsley Amis.
4. Holden Caulfield, from *The Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D. Salinger.
5. Kenneth Widmerpool, from *A Dance to the Music of Time* (12 novels) by Anthony Powell.
6. Old Major, from *Animal Farm*, by George Orwell.
7. Bullivant, from *Manservant and Maudservant*, by Ivy Compton-Burnett.
8. Charles Arrowby, from *The Sea, The Sea*, by Iris Murdoch.
9. Hubert Humboldt and Dolores Haze, from *Lolita*, by Vladimir Nabokov.
10. Daphne Manners, from *The Raj Quartet*, by Paul Scott; and *Staying On*, by Paul Scott.
11. Moses Herzog, from *Herzog*, by Saul Bellow.
12. Angelica Devorell, from *Angel*, by Elizabeth Taylor.
13. Piggy, from *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding.

**At least there's no argument about where to find the Best Novels of our Time****WHSMITH**

Patricia Tisdall looks at the Island's economy based on tourism, manufacturing industry and agriculture and in need of new job opportunities.

A lot more than simply sunshine

Located only four miles off the south coast of England, the Isle of Wight's high sunshine records and varied scenery have attracted holidaymakers since Roman times. However, this diamond shaped 144 square mile island is much more than just pleasant spot for family relaxation.

Although the leisure amenities are its most visible feature, there are also substantial industrial, commercial and agricultural communities which equal tourism in importance to the local economy.

Military boats have been built on the island since the early sixteenth century. From this stems deep roots in innovative high precision engineering projects dating back to before the First World War and the seaplanes developed by the S. E. Saunders and J. Samuel White yards.

The tradition continues on the same site to this day through the Saunders-Roe company's work with missiles and helicopters to its successor, the British Hovercraft Corporation. Added to the engineering skills developed in boatbuilding and aerospace has been an electronic dimension brought in by Plessey Radar after the Second World War.

The design and construction of Thrust II the jet-propelled car which smashed the world land speed record last October at Black Rock Desert, Nevada, is the latest of a long line of pioneering engineering achievements.

John Ackroyd, the designer who spent his formative years at Saunders-Roe, chose to build Thrust II on the island because he knew he could find the skills among the 118,000 residents. Fellow team member and driver Richard Noble praised the support given by individuals in the early stages. "We started this venture with virtually nothing", he said. "People on the island helped us when many of the larger organizations thought we were a bad risk."

The fact that Thrust II was produced by a team of individuals rather than by a big corporation is typical of another island characteristic - self-reliance.

Sir John Nicholson, the energetic Lord Lieutenant, considers its readiness to help itself to be one of the island's chief strengths. As another example of resourcefulness he cites the grain drying and storage depot initiated by the National Farmers' Union as a cooperative venture in 1979.

The NFU's cereals committee stepped in when farmers were faced with the closure of the one commercial supplier. They formed a cooperative company and with EEC aid built the 7,000 ton store on a new quay-side site. The venture has proved a success not only in solving the immediate problems but also in bringing farmers together in other ways.

Discussions are in progress to see if joint marketing ventures can be started for tomatoes and other horticultural products grown in the acres of very advanced greenhouses. Some of the earliest soft fruit and vegetable crops in the country are produced in warm, sheltered conditions away from the coast. But superior marketing by continental suppliers mean that island produce is often not available to fetch the best prices in supermarkets.

Every scrap of self help will be needed if the Isle of Wight is to overcome its severe economic difficulties. For while the two million or so visitors who come to the island each year are very welcome, the business they bring masks an underlying economic picture which is vastly darker than that of the rest of the South of England.

The seasonal jobs provided by tourism give an artificial stimulus to the annual average employment statistics scrutinised by Whitehall planners.

The problem is that while similar numbers of employees (about 7,500) are directly employed in accommodating tourists as in manufacturing, three quarters of the tourist jobs last for less than six months.

As Stephen Ross, the Liberal MP for the island, tirelessly points out, the true winter unemployment rate which topped 16 per cent last month for



An AP 188 hovercraft passes the Needles lighthouse, more orders for these craft are in sight

the second year in succession is among the highest in the country.

Hollidaymakers by Months		
October	1981	26,172
November	1981	17,610
December	1981	19,271
January	1982	5,768
February	1982	12,146
March	1982	20,533
April	1982	56,897
May	1982	111,041
June	1982	193,748
July	1982	225,660
August	1982	277,836
September	1982	37,145
Total		1,003,628

tourism and agriculture has also declined, but at a slower rate.

A series of initiatives were put into effect to first try to alleviate the impact of the job losses and second to start to reconstruct a new industrial framework.

Three new leisure centres with indoor swimming pools and a new public lending library were completed. An employment promotion officer was appointed and an enterprise agency formed to coordinate assistance to small businesses.

Another more controversial step was the appointment of Alan Curtis, former chairman of Aston Martin to advise on future direction. Mr Curtis's recommendations completed

last autumn and officially described as "on the table" have not been formally released. However the two major proposals are understood to be first to unite policies through a powerful new Island Development Board and second to concentrate on the tourist industry as the quickest route to job creation.

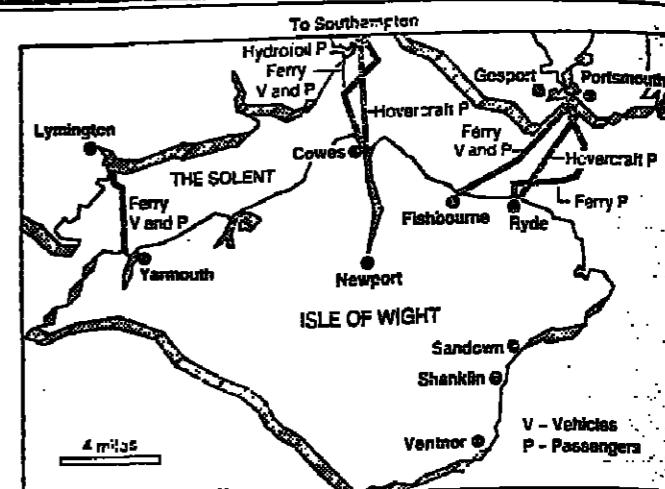
Not surprisingly, the report was not well received by officials who had been painstakingly trying to build employment alternatives to the low wage, highly seasonal tourist industry for more than three decades.

Apart from its skilled workforce, the Isle of Wight claims to be able to offer lower cost land than anywhere else in the South of England. Education, particularly technical education and health facilities, have a high reputation. Above all the quality of life is reckoned to be attractive to key workers and once settled on the island people are loath to leave it.

The main disadvantages of living and working on the Isle of Wight are the costs and delays associated with crossing the Solent. However, communications at present are extremely good with links by fast hydrofoil and hovercraft as well as conventional boats. Sealink car ferries operate throughout the night. During the day passenger boats connect with frequent rail services from Portsmouth to London to give a total journey time by public transport from Ryde IOW of less than two hours. In addition to Sealink, there are two independent operators offering connexions to Southampton and to Southsea.

Like everyone else on the island, John Horsnell, the chief executive of the Isle of Wight County Council, is very encouraged by recent new investment by Sealink. Two new super ferries each of which has about treble the previous car carrying capacity and double the passenger seats and representing a combined cost of about £9m came into operation last year.

But without wishing to appear ungrateful, there is deep concern about the future of the Sealink ferry connexion after the operation is privatized from the BR network. The fear is that bigger ferries will lead to less frequent services and that late night winter connexions will cease at periods when they are not well patronized.



Keeping tourists happy and staying longer

Tourism in the Isle of Wight is big business. With around one million residential visitors a year and a similar number of day trippers, the island is still one of the most popular resort areas in the British Isles.

People come to enjoy the varied scenery and warm climate. They also like the extraordinary wealth of places to visit and things to do as well as the friendliness of the 118,000 permanent residents many of whom are themselves "overlanders" or mainland born.

Alas, like other British resorts, the Isle of Wight's tourist industry fortunes are on the decline as far as its traditional market is concerned. There has been a steady peak of 1968. But the problem is not so much that visitors are coming in fewer numbers but that they are staying for only about half the time.

A recent research study carried out by the English Tourist Board shows that, whereas the fortnight was the most popular holiday duration 15 years ago, the average has now climbed down to about a week with increasing numbers staying for only three, four or five nights. Moreover, the forecast for the next 10 years was that short holidays of one to three nights would show the greatest increase.

The alarming discovery that the traditional marketing base of the middle class, middle aged and their families is no longer automatically secured even at peak season lies behind the business plan drawn up by the IOW tourist board last autumn.

The board has not only adopted the "Friendly" slogan identified in the research report for its 1984 advertising campaign, it has also accepted the recommendation that much

continued on facing page

BHC a major part of the island's economy

British Hovercraft Corporation,
the biggest single private sector
employer on the Isle of Wight, is
a major contributor to the island's economy
along with tourism, horticulture, yachting, light aviation, avionics and
numerous other diverse industries.

Together with the design and manufacture of both military and civil hovercraft including the world's first fully amphibious diesel powered hovercraft, the company is a major contractor to the aerospace industry with customers throughout the world.

The British Hovercraft Corporation,
pioneer of a unique form of
transport, is helping to pioneer a
better economy for this unique
British island.

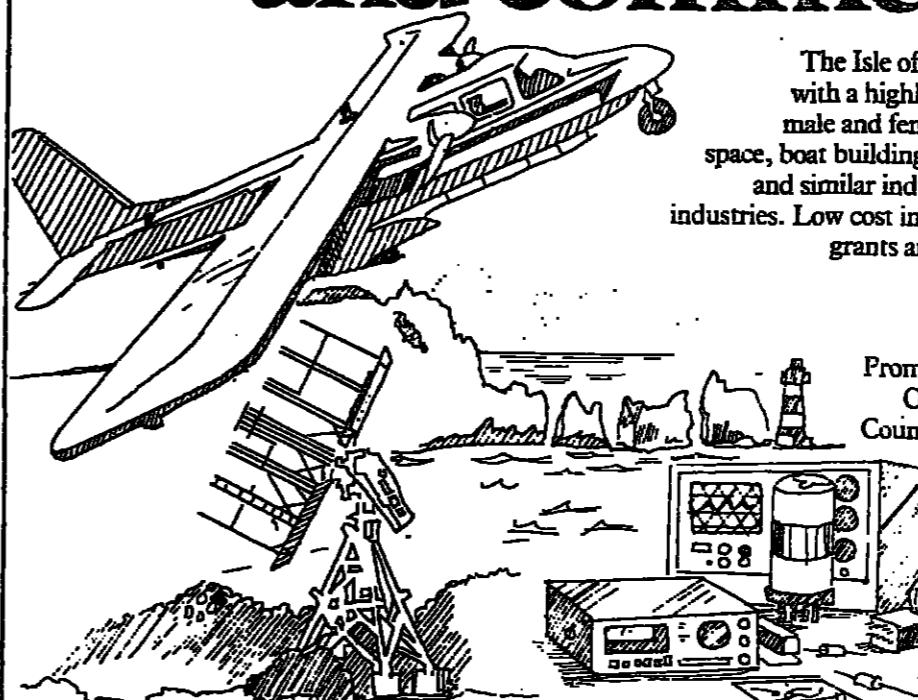
BHC

British Hovercraft Corporation

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The Isle of Wight is an ideal environment with a highly developed labour force, both male and female, with skills in the aviation/space, boat building, electronics, consumer crafts, and similar industries, as well as in the service industries. Low cost industrial land and development grants are available. New factories too.

Contact:
Ron Neve, Employment
Promotion/Industrial Development
Officer, at Isle of Wight County
Council, 67 Town Lane, Newport,
Isle of Wight.
Telephone (0983) 529120.



Dedication to tourism

Tourism has always been a major industry on the Isle of Wight. Every year, hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers choose the Island as their holiday resort abroad, but without language problems or travel difficulties. And a major advertising campaign each year helps make the "friendly isle" even more popular.

There are plenty of opportunities for leisure companies and hotels to invest in the Island's tourist industry, with grants and financial assistance readily available, and the Island specialises in organising small select conferences.

Contact for holiday or
investment information:
Ewen Brenchley, Isle of Wight
Tourist Board, 21 High Street,
Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1JS.
Telephone (0983) 524343.

Isle of Wight

Big business drops anchor at Cowes

A decision by Fairley Marine to concentrate all its boatbuilding activities at Cowes is one of a number of encouraging trends which has occurred in the Isle of Wight's manufacturing industry in the past 12 months.

Last spring, Fairley which is a subsidiary of the publicly quoted S. Pearson group combined the production of lifeboats at an existing yard at Cowes with that of a new acquisition, Cheverton Workboats. The company is now in the process of transferring the design and development of fast patrol boats from its original manufacturing base across the Solent at Hamble into a new site on the Medina river.

The availability of the new site was an important factor in Fairley's decision to concentrate all its production at Cowes. The site was left vacant as a result of the closure of an Elliott Turbomachinery engineering plant - one of a number of closures which has helped to boost unemployment totals to record levels of more than 16 per cent. However, John Blake, the chairman of Fairley Marine, saw the Elliott closure as an opportunity to consolidate all his company's manufacturing operations all under one roof.

The move will result in an investment of about £15m by the time the transfer from Hamble is completed later this year.

It will also result in a workforce of about 300, making Fairley one of the largest private sector employers next to the British Hovercraft Corporation and Plessey Radar.

In the 1950s the island economy was ravaged by defence cuts. These resulted in the closure of the J. Samuel White naval shipbuilding business and Saunders-Roe military aircraft plant but left as a legacy a skilled workforce which later industrialists like Plessey Radar found as attractive as the development aid which was available at that time.

Plessey which currently employs about 1,200 people in producing radar installations, aircraft landing systems and other electronic equipment at a major manufacturing site at Cowes is an example of the type of high technology, high added value manufacturer which the authorities consider best suited to the IOW environment.

Another indicator which augers well for an improvement on the island's overall economy is that having had to shed nearly 100 jobs during the 1981 recession, Plessey is now expanding. Three major new orders, including a £30m contract to manufacture a Nato strategic radar system, a new airfield surveillance radar for

Ministry of Defence airfields and a Royal Navy medium range radar contract were won last year.

These, together with a variety of new export contracts, have led to a new 16,000 sq ft office complex at the Cowes site which is due to be completed by July.

The outlook has also brightened for the British Hovercraft Corporation which with a workforce of 1,500 is the Island's largest private sector employer. The company has high hopes of winning major new orders for its new generation of AP 188 hovercraft. Built with weldable marine alloys and powered by diesel engines instead of gas turbines these cost about a quarter of the earlier versions to construct while running costs are cut by two thirds.

Already in operation on the Ryde to Southsea ferry route from the Island, the first orders to go overseas are due to be delivered in May to Dampskibsskabet Oresund (D. S. O) of Denmark. The two 88 seater AP 188's will operate a new 14 mile route between Kastrup International airport in Copenhagen and Malmö in Sweden.

The BHC also has hopes of winning a MOD minesweeping contract following a series of imaginative demonstrations at Portland last spring. A feasibility study subsequently commissioned by the Royal Navy has been completed and a decision is expected shortly. An order from the Navy is seen as an essential ingredient in persuading foreign customers, a number of which expressed keen interest during the demonstrations, to finalize purchases.

Aerospace activities under-

taken at Cowes for Westland, the BHC parent company has also been active. Work started in January on a new £7m contract to supply fuel pods to Boeing Vertol. The order which follows an extensive sales campaign will utilize some of the very advanced methods of bonding developed by BHC as a result of extensive research and development work often at the forefront of technological innovation.

Penalties of living on an island in terms of transporting goods are even less of a factor for companies like Marex which specializes in measuring environmental data from locations as remote as Greenland or the China Sea than for the shipping or aerospace industries.

Marex which has built up a turnover of about £15m mainly from the very specialist knowledge of its 65 employees could

operate from pretty well anywhere and moved from working in Surrey in 1968 after considering a variety of alternatives.

It was already based at Cowes when Alan Ainslie, the present managing director joined the company but he would be reluctant to move it back to the mainland.

Mr Ainslie's experience has been that pleasant working and living conditions well away from metropolitan pressures have proved a positive advantage in attracting key staff.

The commercial life of the area is centred on the two largest towns of Newport, which is the administrative centre and Ryde which is about eight miles away and a "gateway" for passengers between the mainland and the other Island towns. Unlike the big manufacturers, the large store groups have prospered in recent years. Boots and Woolworth's have expanded their

premises at both Ryde and at Newport while International Stores.

The Tesco hypermarket, which sells much more than just groceries, sparked a petrol price war last year when it opened its own filling station. Prices dropped by up to 15p a gallon in a single week after the opening of the Tesco pumps last March and remain at below typical mainland prices - a very welcome development to the owners of old, thirsty vehicles.

Encouragement to the community generally has been recent confirmation by Marks & Spencer after years of speculation that they too are planning to come to the Isle of Wight.

M&S's business unit is well respected. Their decision to invest is considered as an offsetting factor against fears that the commercial sector may be next in line for an economic holocaust.

Wight. Mr Wise had looked at sites in North England and in Wales. Despite hiccups - like a faulty telephone - he has not subsequently revised his initial impression that the IOW was the best choice - mainly because of an unusually positive attitude both to small companies and to work in general.

"The staff are the best I've ever had", he says. "The Solent is merely a management problem - I can get goods to London by the next day and I and my family feel more comfortable after four months of living here than after 13 years of living in London."

A town for Alice

Queen Victoria's decision to make Osborne House her rustic retreat has had a profound effect on the Isle of Wight. Statesmen, couriers, writers and relatives of the royal couple and their nine children flocked to follow their example. In their wake came the merchants and property developers who have helped to create an Edwardian seaside paradise of wrought iron, bandstands and comfortable villas.

Alfred Lord Tennyson, the poet laureate, was one of the first of many distinguished visitors to fall in love with the "bowery hollow crowned with summer sea". He moved to Farringford in 1853 five years after Osborne House was completed and lived there for nearly half a century.

Other notable literary visitors

included Charles Dickens, resting from his labours on *David Copperfield*, Thomas Macaulay, working on Volume III of his *History of England* and the Rev. C. L. Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll, who may have found his original *Alice* in neighbouring lodgings at Sandown. The poet Swinburne is buried at Bonchurch while Keats "discovered" Shanklin Chine - still one of the most popular of beauty spots - as early as 1817.

But the Latin memory also lives on with the popularity of the description "Vicus" used by 55 local organisations including the local bus company since Vicus was the word the Romans used for the Island.

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Enterprise and smugglers' tales

The Isle of Wight has always had a strong appeal for entrepreneurs - possibly because self reliance is encouraged by the island location but at the same time lucrative mainland markets are only a small boat ride away. The tradition dates from the smuggling of brandy, lace and other forbidden luxuries during the Napoleonic wars through the Victorian property boom to post-war influxes of ex-service men.

Within the past few years, however, there has been a strong stimulus to small new manufacturers who were previously rather discouraged on environmental grounds.

A number of initiatives were started including the appointment of a County Council employment promotion officer and help is given in a variety of ways, in particular in the

provision of premises at subsidized rent and rates.

To help coordinate assistance, an Enterprise Agency backed by more than 20 organizations including Shell and Lloyds Bank as well as local firms such as Island Builders or Vectis Stone and the Medina Borough Council started operations in 1982.

Ron Neve, the agency's director (who is also the County Employment promotion officer) explains that in its first year the agency has been involved in wider activities than just helping new businesses to start up. There have been rescues of ailing firms, revivals of business which had already been closed and "work gathering", i.e. bringing in new orders to island firms, and helping established small businesses to realize their potential.

One of the most spectacular recent examples of local industry development has been that of Brian Stillwell's NFI (Nameplates for Industry) company. Mr Stillwell, the 46-year-old founder, moved his company which printed business nameplates in plastics from Addlestone in Surrey to Newport IOW in 1968. The company prospered but did not hit the very rapid growth it is experiencing at present until 10 years later when it was introduced to the new electronic technology which enables switch controls to be touched rather than pressed.

In order to supply the new market NFI gained the cooperation from its existing workforce, immediate access to new skills and local authority help to extend its factory.

Since 1979 Mr Stillwell's business which won an Industrial Innovation Award for its

Before opting for the Isle of

part in the development of the Sinclair ZX81 personal computer, has expanded to a fourth factory.

Its turnover is around £3m and it employs 120 people.

Transport has, however, proved a problem for an entrepreneur engaged in a more traditional type of business. Mr Edward Minghella, who has been exporting 54 varieties of award winning "real" ice cream from Ryde to markets such as Harrods, Fortnum & Mason and Selfridges for over 30 years, estimates that carriage off the island adds an additional 12 per cent to his costs.

Mr Minghella, who came to the island in 1950 as a newly married ex-serviceman and invested his demob money in a plant to convert local dairy products into ice-cream, is a leading local protagonist for a bridge or tunnel link with the mainland.

But even if the campaign for a permanent link fails, Mr Minghella would not consider ever moving his business to the mainland. Rather, he too is in the process of expansion with plans for a new purpose-built plant to double his output by the end of 1984.

One of the characteristics of new generation entrepreneurs generally is an interest in co-operation. The possibilities for mutual aid through a newly formed small firms association influenced Sam Wise to set up his Technical Projects company in the Isle of Wight last September. A break-away from a London-based theatre supplier, Technical Projects produces audio and intercom equipment for the entertainment industry.

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£107m losses in US send CU profits crashing

By Andrew Cornelius

Commercial Union Assurance yesterday sent a shiver through the composite insurance sector by announcing an unexpected \$150m (£107m) provision against losses in the United States which contributed to results for 1983 which were well below expectations.

The City was surprised by the results which were announced a week earlier than expected and Commercial Union's shares fell by 13p to 163p on the news. Later the shares rallied to close down 3p at 173p as market sentiment warmed to the decision to maintain the final dividend at 6.95p per share, with Royal Insurance falling by 5p to 513p. Guardian Royal Exchange down 4p to 516p and Phoenix Assurance 2p lower at 468p.

The board decided to make a special provision of £60m on top of the complex reinsurance deal which bolstered the group's special contingency reserves from £1.1bn to £1.5bn. He said that it was unfortunate that the disappointing results in the US would dominate the picture because in the rest of the world Commercial Union had had significant success.

Pretax profits of £9.3m for 1983 compare with £11.5m in 1982 and City expectations of £45m. Total underwriting losses increased from £272m to £314m. Total premium income rose from £2.178m to £2.285m, while investment income grew by 8 per cent to £225m.

The poor performance at Commercial Union knocked all the leading insurance shares, with Royal Insurance falling by 6.95p per share, making an unchanged total dividend of 11.8p.

Mr Sandy Marshall, chairman, said that the results had been published early to inform shareholders of the deteriorating financial and underwriting conditions in the US as soon as possible.

He said that it was unfortunate that the disappointing results in the US would dominate the picture because in the rest of the world Commercial Union had had significant success.

further \$100m to take the total provision to \$150m in the light of worsening US losses in the fourth quarter of the year.

Problems in the US were aggravated by increased weather claims, Mr Cecil Harris, the chief executive, said that 1982 and 1983 results have been hit by unusual weather conditions which have cost £20m more than in a normal year.

The group is channelling its best management into tackling the American problems. The aim will be to increase the amount of personal business and reduce the exposure to the troublesome commercial lines.

Commercial Union defended the decision to maintain the dividend because of the potential improvement in their results after the recent remedial action; the underlying strength of the company and the group's strong performance outside the US.

Bath and Portland seeks partner

By Jeremy Warner

Bath and Portland Group is looking for a partner to help it bring its inexpensive version of the medical diagnostic scanner to the market.

The group will review the prospects for the product over the next few months and will investigate the possibility of bringing in a partner with established medical engineering capabilities to help with the substantial costs.

So far the company has invested £2m in the project but it has yet to decide whether

prospects for the product, which was a big profit contributor last year, more progress is expected. This has given the directors' confidence to declare a same again final dividend of 3.5p, leaving the total for the year unchanged at 6p.

The group is channelling its best management into tackling the American problems. The aim will be to increase the amount of personal business and reduce the exposure to the troublesome commercial lines.

In the year to the end of October, the group wrote off about £684,000 of scanner development costs against its profits. This contributed to a downturn in the company's overall pretax profits from £3.9m to £2m.

The group plans to sell soon

another loss maker, Curwen & Newbery, which makes heat regeneration equipment. Elsewhere in the group, and especially in the traditional business of mineral extraction which was a big profit contributor last year, more progress is expected. This has given the directors' confidence to declare a same again final dividend of 3.5p, leaving the total for the year unchanged at 6p.

Stylo defence

Stylo, the Bradford shoe company, yesterday issued one of the shortest defence documents on record against the unwanted £33m bid from the Harris Queensway carpet retailing group.

In one and a third pages, excluding appendices, Mr Arnold Ziff, the chairman, says a property valuation is being carried out, but a result would not be published for some months.

The group plans to sell soon

1983/84 High Low Stock	Int. Gross Div Yield %	Price Chg'ge Yield %
BRITISH FUNDS		
SHORTS		
1001 Exch 14% 1984 101%	13.825 9.242	
1002 Exch 14% 1984 101%	13.825 9.242	
1003 Exch 14% 1984 101%	13.825 9.242	
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Why gilt-edged brokers are being tarnished

The manner and timing of the Stock Exchange Council's decision to cut brokers' commissions on large gilt-edged deals has set a messy precedent for the more fundamental issues to be settled in the next 18 months.

On Tuesday the Council voted to cut gifts commissions by between 10 per cent and 20 per cent, with effect from April 9. Trading in government stocks is the lifeblood of the Stock Exchange, accounting for some 85 per cent of turnover. While equity dealing takes the lion's share of the headlines, it is dwarfed by the massive volumes of the gilt-edged market. In that light, it was bold to the point of self-flagellating altruism to cut gilt commissions as an interim step toward freely negotiated commissions which is the ultimate objective, to be reached possibly by the end of next year. Some broking firms are being called on to suffer relatively more than others, because they are more heavily dependent on gilt-edged business.

This has of course always happened whenever the Stock Exchange has altered its charges. The effects do not fall evenly. However, as the market comes closer to the day of completely free bargaining and the end of the rigid distinction between broker and jobber, the stakes are driven inexorably higher.

Some gilt brokers pointed out yesterday that they are being ordered to cut their income at precisely the time when they ought to be fattening their reserves to be able to compete as market makers with

international financial giants like Merrill Lynch and Nomura Securities. The capital backing needed for a pure broking or agency operation is much more modest.

The timing of commission cuts hits gilt brokers in another way. Many Stock Exchange firms are quietly talking with banks and other outsiders who want access to the market and can offer big capital injections. The brokers' bargaining position is bound to be undermined if their main source of revenue is publicly shrunk. Gilt commissions always were vulnerable, but it is wise to diminish the brokers' dowry at a stroke?

Putting the societies' house in order

The final proposals from the Building Societies Association on the legislative changes it wants to enable societies to broaden their activities raise important questions about the future regulation of the industry. They should figure prominently in the forthcoming Government green paper on building society legislation which is the next stage on the long and dusty road leading to a new Building Society Act.

The BSA's report is much more sharply focused than its first discussion document. Where contentious, as in the proposal that building societies should be allowed to engage in insurance broking and possibly insurance underwriting, it is also much more realistic. The BSA recognizes that societies would have to accept prudential and regulatory requirements this kind of diversification would entail. As for setting up separate subsidiaries to carry on business in novel areas, there is also now a clear recognition that societies would have to be able to stand fully behind them in the event of their running into financial trouble.

The diversification of building societies into non-traditional activities raises the possibility that they will find different

In the most difficult plight of all is the uniquely placed Mullen's, whose senior partner traditionally is the Government Broker and thus responsible for marketing of gilt-edged stock on the Bank of England's behalf. Virtually all Mullen's revenue is derived from gilt-edged commissions. It is thus uniquely vulnerable on trading grounds - a depressing thought after a spell when its official links alone have deterred potential suitors from making approaches. It is not even clear whether such a being as the Government Broker will exist in his present form in the brave new world of 1986.

What has soured the mood of innovation and reorganization in the Stock Exchange is the suspicion that Tuesday's Council vote fell largely according to the relative weight of vested interests. The gilt brokers found themselves in the minority against the rest who stood to gain or at least not lose as much. And all for what? To appease the impatience of institutional fund managers for change.

It has been a traditional view of the institutions that commissions on large gilt-edge transactions are too large. It costs little more to handle a deal worth £10m than one worth £1,000, yet the commission alone on the larger one is measured in thousands. The National Association of Pension Funds, nowadays a power in the City, argued forcefully last November that two years would be too long to wait for a reduction. The MAPF wanted, and has now got, an interim measure.

This appears to fly in the face of some influential disinterested opposition. The City Capital Markets Committee, a representative body set up by the Bank of England, studied the problem and came down firmly against any dismantling of commissions - which this week's decision clearly is.

It all must seem rather quaint to the likes of Salomon Brothers in New York. They have been through the fire of negotiated commissions since 1975 and come out immeasurably strengthened. Others died in that same fire. But no one was asked to dip a hand in the flames before they all had to.

A British Government decision on provision of aid for the next European airline venture, the Airbus A320, became more pressing yesterday after the West German Cabinet approved DM 1,500m (£470m) of assistance for the project.

British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake in the Airbus Industries consortium and has asked the Government for up to £427m of launch aid.

Scepticism about the 150-seat A320 aircraft has come mainly from the British and German partners, with the French backing the development from the start.

The German decision to provide interest-free aid intensifies the pressure on the British Government. The Airbus partners have expressed concern at the possible lack of British involvement, but it has become clear that other western nations are lining up to take part should Britain pull out.

An announcement from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is expected very soon. It is believed that the decision has been delayed because of ministers' insistence that BAe, which is already putting up £200m from its own resources for the project, should raise more from private sources.

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has been appointed by the Government to advise on how a package of City funds can be put together to finance part of the British share of the A320.

Until now supervision of building societies and their £86 billion of assets has moved in the direction of the flexible, discretionary approach adopted by the Bank of England toward banks. This may explain the suggestion that the Chief Registrar should be brought within the Bank of England's orbit.

parts of their business regulated by different bodies. Insurance is one case in point, banking is another. Although the association is proposing that retail banking activities such as unsecured lending and cheque and credit card facilities should be carried out as part of their mainstream business, they are not ruling out the possibility of setting up licensed deposit-taking subsidiaries which would come directly under the eye of the Bank of England.

The Government will need to consider thoroughly the division of supervisory responsibilities between the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and other regulatory agencies which building society diversification may involve. The Registry of Friendly Societies itself, as constituted probably lacks the resources to cope with much more work.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Last words as Hanson bid closes

A flurry of circulars went to London brick shareholders yesterday, ahead of Tuesday's final closing date for the £247m takeover bid from Hanson Trust.

A full-colour defence document from London Brick urged shareholders to "dismiss this bid", claiming the company's super flotation brick was "probably the most exciting advance in British brick-making this century".

But Lord Hanson, in a separate circular, claimed his company offered greater profit potential for London Brick shareholders.

The British steel Corporation yesterday announced a £18m investment for its Lackenby heavy beam mill on Teesside, and at the same time announced the closure of its Carge Fleet section mill. The 400 workers are being offered alternative jobs.

Yorkshire Bank, the profitable regional bank owned by four of the London clearing banks, is raising £75m with a 10-year sterling floating rate note issue managed by County Bank. The aim is to secure longer-term finance to fund existing business.

Draft plans to tighten tax rules covering roll up and other offshore funds are to be changed, to make it easier for some types of fund to qualify for exemption, the Treasury announced yesterday.

Imperial Group's Howard Johnson hotels and restaurants subsidiary is branching out into the mid-price hotels market, operating a chain across the US in town centre, suburban and airport locations; it was announced yesterday.

Vantona stalks F Miller

Vantona Viyella, the textile company run by Mr David Alliance, was yesterday soundly beaten in its institutional shareholders in F Miller (Textiles), the small Scottish Marks and Spencer clothing supplier.

Vantona is expected to bid for F Miller after last week's failure of an £11m bid from Nottingham Manufacturing.

But a consortium represented by Robert Fleming, the Merchant bank, has also asked shareholders to put them on the board

Liffe quadruples fee

By Michael Prest

Inactive or loss-making members of the London International Financial Futures Exchange could find themselves squeezed out this year by the exchange's decision yesterday to raise the members' annual subscription fee from £1,250 to £5,000.

The increase, which will be smaller for members who use their seats for active trading, has been partly designed to cut Liffe's operating deficit. The exchange has also agreed with the International Commodities Clearing House, which clears

for the ICCH, to charge 25p a lot for each side of the transaction, under the new arrangements, due to come into force on April 1.

Humber side emerging as front runner

Nissan plant countdown begins

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

A six-man study team from Nissan of Japan began a final appraisal of sites for the company's £50m British car assembly factory and up to 500 jobs with a visit to North Wales.

The company has looked at eight sites but favourite locations are widely assumed to be North and South Wales and Humber side, with the latter emerging as front runner.

Yesterday's visit to North Wales, with Clwyd County Council acting as hosts, marks the start of a delicate decision-making process, with an announcement promised by the end of March. The company has been careful not to state a preference for fear of boosting land prices.

Nissan wants 800 acres in an assisted area for the factory which is in its expected second phase, will involve a total investment of £350m and more than £100m of government aid.

The Nissan team, led by Mr E Kosi, a general manager and

Reuters Trustees build in powers to stop bidders

By Philip Robinson

Trustees of Reuters will be given the power to prevent a full takeover or any significant share-building when the news agency and business information group goes public in May.

The 10 trustees will be increased to a maximum of 14 and they will monitor the Reuter's shareholders' register through a new Founders Share Company which will have on asset: a single share in Reuters which will carry more votes than the rest of the equity. Mr Geoffrey Upton, deputy chairman of the trustees, said yesterday that the Founders Share Company would exercise its effective veto if any one trustee thought that the Reuter's integrity and independence

Present Trustees of Reuters

Mr Angus McLachlan	(chairman)
Mr Geoffrey Upton	(New Zealand News: acting chairman)
Mr Stanley Clarke	(Courier Press, Leamington)
Mr David Cole	(Thomson Regional)
Lord Hartwell	(Daily Telegraph)
Mr John LePage	(Newspaper Publishers Association)
Mr Gordon Linacre	(United Newspapers)
Lord Matthews	(Fleet Holdings)
Lord Rothermere	(Associated Newspapers)
Mr John Wallwork	(Daily Mail & General Trust)

which are non-traded goes against our philosophy and we will be informing our members along those lines."

The financial institutions' aversion to shares carrying different rights stems from the belief that, should a company's decision or trading seriously deteriorate, those responsible within the company should not be able to outvote shareholders who have put in most of the capital.

The split equity will not please the big pension funds and insurance companies whose cooperation is needed to make a success of the issue.

Mr Henry James, director-general of the National Association of Pension Funds, said last night: "We are disappointed that Reuters have chosen to create two classes of shares. It was always our position that the Founders shares of an equivalent size were acceptable, but selling shares to the public which command less votes than others

news agency at less than £1 billion.

Mr Renfrew added: "We will try to persuade the institutions that the additional safeguard will not detract from our ability to make profits."

Reuters' pretax profits have risen from £3.1m to £33m since 1978 and are expected to have between £50m and £60m last year.

Last September Reuters announced it was paying an interim dividend of 40p per £1 share. It paid a final dividend of £60 per share in 1982 compared with £20 the previous year.

The agency's new wealth comes from the development in the 1970's of electronically transmitted business information.

This altered the Fleet Street press barons to the fortunes which could be realized by floating the agency on the stock market.

The main beneficiaries of Reuters as a public company will be Associated Newspapers, publishers of the *Daily Mail* and *Mail on Sunday* with 12.2 per cent; Fleet Holdings, owners of the *Daily Express*, *Sunday Express* and *Daily Star* with 12.1 per cent; and News International, publishers of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *New of the World* with 9 per cent.

Reed International, owners of the *Daily Mirror* and five other national newspapers, has 7.9 per cent.

Dollar drops

A wave of profit-taking left the dollar sharply lower in the foreign exchange markets yesterday and sterling also lost ground against European currencies although it closed 10 points higher at 1.4510 against the dollar.

After a short-lived rally the previous day caused by concern over the Middle East and the possibility of higher US interest rates, the dollar fell to 1.4510 at 2.6550 at one point in nervous, active trading. But it recovered slightly before the London close fell to 1.4518, 3.98 penceings at DM 2.6627 and well down against most other leading currencies.

Yesterday's setback reinforced the view that the dollar, which has fallen nearly 18 penceings since its January peak, is set for further long-term decline.

Although sterling closed firmer against the US currency, it showed sizable falls against other currencies and its trend-weighted value slipped 0.3 to 82.4 yesterday.

In stock market yesterday shares eased with the FT 30-share Index off 2.9 to 816.4. The Stock Exchange Index of 100 leading shares fell 1.4 to 1043.0.

Market report, page 20

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 816.4 down 2.9

FT 30: 52.58 down 0.02

FT All Share: 494.02 down 0.28

Bargains: 18.687

Datasream USL Leaders Index: 106.88 down 0.11

New York Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1,137.25 down 2.03

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,947.7 down 22.93

Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 1,047.22 down 18.69

Amsterdam: 166.1 down 2.7

Sydney AO Index: 743.0 down 0.5

Frankfurt Commerzbank Index: 1024.0 down 12.8

Brussels General Index: 141.18 up 0.15

Paris CAC Index: 161.0 down 0.6

Zurich SKA General: 305.7 down 2.40

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling

\$1.4510 up 70pts

Index 82.4 down 0.3

DM 2.6550 down 0.0575

Ft 11,9150 down 0.1550

Yen 338.50 down 0.50

Eurostar

Index 123.1 up 1.1

DM 2.6627 down 0.0393

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.4540

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England, expecting a £500m shortfall with an acute shortage of saleable paper in the market, immediately asked for offers of bills when business opened.

Sale-and-repurchase agreements on £342m of bills until March 26 were quickly arranged, at 9 per cent, and at lunchtime the authorities bought £183m of bills outright across the four bands, at established rates.

Midway through the afternoon, the Bank revised upwards its shortfall estimate to around £550m, and purchased another £22m of bills, bringing the total of the day's help to £547m.

Secured rates stayed firm throughout, with houses sticking with bids of 9 per cent but paying up to 9½ per cent to attract sizable line.

Period rates again held steady throughout, a quiet session. Sterling CD trading was notable only for some early issuing of one-month paper at 9¾ per cent by a clearing bank.

Interbank overnight money traded at 9¾ per cent all day. Local authorities were active takers of notice money but showed little interest in the periods.

Dollar rates tended to firm a little more at first, only to revert to overnight positions in most cases. Business here was at a low level.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar took another drubbing on exchanges against all currencies yesterday and helped the pound to close 70 points up on the day at \$1.4510, although significantly weaker against continental currencies. Sterling's trade weighted index finished down 0.3 at 82.4.

Dealers said market sentiment has resumed its recent trend of seeing a much easier dollar, after the sudden rise in value caused by the Straits of Hormuz scare over oil supplies.

The US currency lost 4 pfennigs and 12 centimes against the Deutsche mark and French franc's values.

Post oil fear reaction hit both the dollar and sterling.

Sterling slid to a low of \$1.4475 after opening near \$1.4560 in the afternoon before finishing below the best and 3½ pfennigs off to the Deutsche mark at 3.8675; 13 centimes cheaper to French francs at 11.9150; and 2½ centimes off to Swiss francs at 3.1825. However, it managed to gain ½ a yen at 338.50.

Gold shares recapture investors

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealing began Feb 13. Dealings and Feb 24. Contango Day Feb 27. Settlement Day March 5.

£497m last time. The shares lost 2p to 602p.

Elsewhere, interest was again centred on specialists' situations. The FT Index lost 2.9 to close at 816.4, while the SE100 eased 1.4 to 1043.0.

Among the blue chips, Bowater slipped 1p to 261p ahead of figures due shortly. The market is looking for the day's high of \$397 an ounce, closed at \$395.75, for a gain on the day of 66¢. This was good news for the producers which have been overlooked as investors have focused on industrial companies.

Am Gold rose 3½ to \$121.4, Buffelsfontein 3¾ to \$64.4, Grootvlei 3½ to \$151.9, St Helens 3½ to \$38.6, and Unisel 5½ to \$16.4. Among the cheaper issues, Marivele rose 15 cents to 423 cents, Bracken 5 cents to 372 cents, and Deelkraal 33 cents to 443 cents.

Those quoted in sterling also showed healthy gains, with East Rand Consolidated 23p to 640p, and Western Areas 20p to 440p.

At the heavier end, Middle Wits rose 1½ to 111½, and Venterpost 50p to 11½. This was good news for the producers which have been overlooked as investors have focused on industrial companies.

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Scattered gains were seen in BTR up 7p to 420p, Boots 3p to 175p, Imperial Group 1p to 143p, Marks and Spencer 4p to 125p, TI Group 4p to 240p and Trusthouse Forte 4p to 214p.

Government securities remained a nervous market, still uncertain over the outlook for US interest rates, which prompted losses of up to ½% at the longer end of the market.

The FT Government Securities Index slipped 0.02 to 82.96.

The fighting between Iran and Iraq produced selective support for oil shares in the belief that oil supplies might become short if both sides attempt to bottle up shipping in the Gulf of Hormuz. But by the close prices were still down on the day with BP 1p lighter at 430p, British 7p at 246p, Cartes Capel 5p at 236p, Clyde Petroleum 3p at 128p, Lasmco 5p at 318p, Shell 3p at 633p, Tricentrol 3p at 203p and Ultramar 3p at 674p.

In stores House of Fraser rose 14p to a new high of 290p, still on hopes of an eventual bid should Lonrho decide to sell its near 30 per cent stake. Lonrho enjoyed a rise of 8p to 154p, helped by yesterday's demand for precious metals.

Irish oil stocks were also a weak market with Aran Energy losing 4p to 60p, Atlantic Resources 35p to 42p, and Eglington 15p to 325p. There are signs of a recovery in the share price of Burnett & Hallamshire, the open-cast coalmine, which rose 1p to 190p. After last year's collapse in profits analysts have been taking a new look at the shares and are now buying them as a recovery prospect.

The next set of full-year figures from Burnett are expected to show pre-tax profits down to about £11m, compared with £30m last year.

Insurance shares had a shock after discovering the reason Commercial Union brought forward the announcement of its figures by a week. The loss of £9.3m clipped 3p from the shares at 173p, after 164p, and the analysts meeting with the company last night did little to improve the outlook.

Although there are still signs of an improvement in commercial lines the shares still remain a risky long-term buy. Analysts

are still predicting pretax profits for the present year of £7.5m.

Meanwhile, General Accident lost 2p to 446p, after 451p, Guardian Royal Exchange 4p to 516p, Phoenix 2p to 468p, Royal Insurance 5p to 513p and Minister 1p to 132p.

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Commercial Property 10% rise forecast in top City rents

Rents for the best office accommodation in prime locations in the City of London could increase this year by 10 per cent to £34 a square foot, said chartered surveyors, Richard Ellis, predict in their latest review of the market.

Last year top rents in the City remained at about £30 a square foot for much off the time, but recently began to edge upwards and ended the year at £31 a square foot. Few deals were agreed at this level, although in one or two isolated transactions, including Atlas House, Cheapside, Gresham College and 44 Bishopsgate, about £32 a square foot was achieved.

While a 10 per cent increase is foreseen for the top rents, average growth is predicted at between 5 per cent and 10 per cent for the coming year.

Richard Ellis base their prediction on the belief that there is increasing demand for high quality office buildings and the fact that the market is becoming more balanced as less new building becomes available.

They believe there will be a more sustained level of letting activity in the City as a result of a continuing demand from the banking sector.

Some 3m sq ft of office space is likely to be taken up in 1984, compared with 2.8m sq ft in 1983, but the acute lack of high standard buildings available in the City's central area is forcing financial tenants to look elsewhere.

"This factor is increasing letting prospects for high quality buildings in more peripheral City areas, and resulting in the overall liveliness in the letting market," the firm say.

Richard Ellis forecast that 3.25m sq ft of office accommo-

Christopher Warman



Knight Frank and Rutley have been instructed by Gulf Oil Company Eastern Hemisphere to dispose of their leases on the 4th and 5th floors of 129 Park Street, London W1. The offices have been full-partitioned and air-conditioned, and the common parts of the building upgraded. The offices are held on two separate leases assigned for 22 years from December 1976, subject to rent reviews every five years, at a rent equivalent to £15.50 a square foot. The 4th floor provides about 8,982 sq ft and the 5th floor about 8,726 sq ft.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23 1984

CRICKET: ENGLAND GO TWO UP IN ONE-DAY SERIES

Willis turns to Marks for victory

From Derek Hodgson, Wellington

Such is the strength of New Zealand's batting, it was pointed out confidently in these columns earlier this week, they could not be dismissed again for 134 as they were at Christchurch in the first of the Rothmans one-day series. That prediction was borne out yesterday morning when England bowled them out for 135, the second match of the series by six wickets.

It is, of course, a great relief to write of the batting anxieties of other countries for a change, and New Zealand, ably abetted by Marks, who took the first five wickets for 20 runs to become man of the match, gave as neurotic a performance as any by England in recent years.

Geoff Howarth, their captain, admitted: "Even if the pitch was too slow and Marks was able to win a little run we should still have scored around 210. There is no doubt that England are fielding extremely tightly and they bowled very well again, but that does not excuse another batting failure on our part. We cannot seem to bat in partnerships to work together for a target."

New Zealand were set back by Wright's withdrawal because of a badly infected left ear. Edgar is out of form, while Franklin has a poor record against England. The pair had struggled to reach two runs an over when Marks was introduced.

A target of 136 in an innings starting just before three o'clock seemed an ideal opportunity for Gower to play himself into some runs again. Instead, he batted as though there were

Students threaten to disrupt Tests

Karachi (Reuters) - The first Test between England and Pakistan at Karachi in the first week of March is likely to be played under heavy security. Students have threatened to disrupt the series if the government does not lift a ban on student unions.

Hasil Khan, leader of a committee which said it represented 15 student organisations and more than 50,000 students in Karachi, said: "All the Tests will be disrupted if the government does not lift the ban on student unions."

The England team is arriving here on February 28 to play Tests at Karachi, Faisalabad and Lahore and two one-day internationals at Lahore and Karachi.

Students have held violent protests in the past 10 days, burning cars and stoning police, banks and government vehicles. Police said they had arrested about 100 students in Karachi while student leaders put the number at more than 250.

Last year at Karachi, students attacked the pitch and disrupted the match in spite of heavy security when the Indian team were playing against Pakistan. At the time the students were demanding a government ban on cricket, which they said was a waste of time.

Meanwhile, Haseeb Ahsan, chief selector of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP), said Javed Miandad was struck by a bouncer from the Australian fast bowler, Dennis Lillee, in benefit match for the former Indian captain, Bishen Bedi, and their incorrigible police will have a busy month.

For students or others with grievances to air, the presence of an international team, a corps of visiting pressmen and fair-sized crowds provides too good an opportunity to miss. England's last three tours of Pakistan have ended in disorder and frustration.

Queen's Bench Division

Excluding adjoining development wrong

Sutton v Secretary of State for the Environment and Others Before Mr Justice McCullough Judgment delivered February 20

The Secretary of State for the Environment, on an appeal under section 18 of the Land Compensation Act 1961, had erred in law in holding that the planning permission under section 17 as to whether planning permission might reasonably have been expected to be granted for certain specified classes of development on land owned or controlled by the applicant if it had not been acquired by compulsory purchase, regard should be had to possible development on land owned or controlled by the applicant only and not to the possibility of comprehensive development involving both that land and adjoining land neither being built on of such an exceptional nature that it did not fall into any class for the purpose of section 17. The construction which the secretary of state had adopted would be manifestly unfair and could not have been the intention of Parliament.

Section 17 presupposed that an application for planning permission would be made, and so it was irrelevant for the local authority or the secretary of state to consider the likelihood of such an application being made, and against the failure of the Great Grimsby Borough Council to issue a certificate under section 17 within the prescribed time limit.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division, allowing an application under section 21 of the 1961 Act for an order quashing a decision of the secretary of state, who on July 25, 1983 had dismissed appeals by the applicant, Mr Cecil Roland Sutton, against a certificate issued by the Cleethorpes Borough Council under section 17 that planning permission could not reasonably have been expected to be granted for any development other than the building of the A180 road, in respect of which a compulsory purchase order had been made, and against the failure of the Great Grimsby Borough Council to issue a certificate under section 17 within the prescribed time limit.

Mr Michael Burke-Gaffney, QC and Mr Justin Fenwick, for the applicant, Mr Simon D. Brown, for the secretary of state.

Mr JUSTICE McCULLOUGH said that if planning permission for

a comprehensive development of the applicant's land and neighbouring land were granted, the value of the applicant's land would probably be enhanced.

Nothing in section 17 suggested that account should not be taken of the possibility of such development, and indeed sections 17(1), 14(1), (4) (b), (2) strongly suggested that it should.

The word "class" in section 17 meant merely "that which could be classified"; it had a very general meaning and would include, for example, private schools and convalescent homes; see *Essex Construction Co v Minister of Housing and Local Government* (1968) 81 R & VR 818, 824.

All development could be classified some way or other, and the secretary of state had therefore been wrong to hold that the classifying of a Nigerian car factory being built was of such an

exceptional nature that it did not fall into any class for the purpose of section 17. The construction which the secretary of state had adopted would be manifestly unfair and could not have been the intention of Parliament.

Section 17 presupposed that an application for planning permission would be made, and so it was irrelevant for the local authority or the secretary of state to consider the likelihood of such an application being made, and against the failure of the Great Grimsby

Borough Council to issue a certificate under section 17 within the prescribed time limit.

Mr Michael Burke-Gaffney, QC and Mr Justin Fenwick, for the applicant, Mr Simon D. Brown, for the secretary of state.

Solicitors: Stoneham Langton & Pasmore; Treasury Solicitor.

J & R Another

Mr Justice Balcombe, sitting in chambers in Liverpool on February 20, granted an application by the plaintiff in a libel action for leave to make an approved statement in open court and considered the principles for the exercise of the judicial discretion under Order 85, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. The defendant had opposed the application and submitted that leave should be refused.

Mr JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that payment into court was simply an offer of discharge of the claim on terms and that the payment-in implied no admission about the merits of the action as there had

been no adjudication on it; see *Martin French v J. Kingswood Hill Ltd* (1971) 11 QB 36.

His Lordship reviewed *Wadeley v Associated Newspapers Ltd* (1924) KB 448; *Fyfe v Nationwide News Pty Ltd* (1968) 13 FLR 180 and *Church of Scientology v California v North News* (1973) 117 Cal 560 and drew from those cases the following principles.

1. A judge should be slow to refuse plaintiff leave to make an appropriate statement in open court, especially where the claimant complained of as being defamatory had

been no adjudication on it; see *Martin French v J. Kingswood Hill Ltd* (1971) 11 QB 36.

2. One of the factors which might persuade the judge to refuse leave was the smallness of the sum paid into court when compared to the seriousness of the libel.

3. In any event, the judge should not give leave to the plaintiff to make a statement in open court to which the defendant could take legitimate exception. In such an event it would be difficult to refuse an application by the defendant, under the rule, for leave to make a counter-statement in open court, which could give rise to a most unsatisfactory situation.

4. The seriousness of the libel, the nature of the defence, the amount of

off Chatsfield, at 58. Once settled he is difficult to dislodge on this tour and he was there to back-sweep the winning runs.

By then the crowd had begun to break up, or punch up, as the mood took them, although to regular English watchers the contest would have been regarded as somewhat flaccid, altogether lacking the spirit and dash of a Yorkshire special general meeting.

Willis made the point more seriously afterwards: "The New Zealand board will have to consider the preparation of the pitches for one-day games. This one looked good but was a disappointment, the ball not coming on to the bat. The crowds are flocking in now but their enthusiasm will soon disappear if teams are going to be scoring no more than 150 runs per innings."

He also explained that the early bowling of Marks was a pre-planned move: "It worked handsomely. We knew they would have to try to hit over the

MARKS: five for 20

only five overs left and twice lofted the ball before being caught at point at 56.

By then the sun had gone. Watchers in bikinis on neighbouring roofs returned wearing blankets as the Wellington wind found an edge. In the middle Smith once again took his chance like a good professional, waiting for the loose ball and then dispatching it to the boundary. His 50 came in 83 minutes and included 11 boundaries. Although he lost Lamb (a well-taken return catch) at 54 he left only the mopping up to do when the returning Hadlee forced him to play on.

New Zealand's last faint chance disappeared when Randall was dropped behind.

Restored to the 12 from which the team will be chosen is

ATHLETICS

Stumble for Jones on Olympic road

By Pat Butcher

Hugh Jones got a close view of the Olympic marathon course last Sunday, but it may not prove advantageous to his hopes of making the British team for the Games.

He was sprawled on the road at 10 miles in the Los Angeles international marathon, after being bumped at a drinks station. The leading group of half a dozen, who had been jostling for drinks, got away as Jones picked himself up, and he spent the next 16 miles running by himself.

He finished fifth, in 2hr 11min 54sec, more than two minutes outside his best, and it has already been suggested that he may have to run the London marathon on May 13, along with other team prospects.

However, Jones has no intention of running in London, which he feels is too close, albeit three months from the Olympic marathon. He feels that the British selectors should look at the circumstances of Sunday's race, and also at his previous competitive record, where Jones is on much safer ground.

"The leaders got away by 50 yards, and there was a chance of catching them again. It was a brilliant run, almost perfect for me, but I was pleased that I finished, having been able to sustain injuries throughout the race," he said yesterday on his return to Britain.

Since winning the AAA marathon in Rugby in 1981, Jones has never been beaten by a British runner over the distance. He was third in the New York marathon later that year, then went on to win the 1982 London marathon in his best time of 2hr 24min. He missed the European championship and Commonwealth Games through injuries, which eventually necessitated surgery on both ankles.

Jones came back last year to win the Stockholm marathon and secure his place in the British team for the world championships.

The marathon is the athletics event above all others, where lack of preparation will manifest itself in poor performance, but Jones's eighth place in Helsinki on Saturday, May 13, was second best in the New York marathon later that year. He was third in the 1982 London marathon in his best time of 2hr 24min. He missed the European and Commonwealth Games through injuries, which eventually necessitated surgery on both ankles.

Although Evans changed, Villa replaced him and included King for Rio.

Evans' last 14 miles were

not content with a goal advantage in five places.

In one of the series of close marathon finishes at the end of last year, Jones was outpointed for first place by Eddie Villa, who had run a brilliant race, but Webb, a batsman, was unable to sustain his pace throughout the race," he said yesterday on his return to Britain.

During his period with Trinity, he was sent off in the match against Leeds on January 29, for verbally abusing the referee, Peter Massey. If, as is more likely, Lewis is suspended today, there is no international agreement in force for club games, making it mandatory for the Australian board of control to impose the sentence.

The League in Britain will therefore resolve the issue by putting an suspension on file, to be imposed if and when Lewis returns to the country.

The saga of Frank Barlow's resignation as Oldham coach took its final turn yesterday when the Oldham club told Barlow that they would accept his resignation.

Barry Garland, who was third in the Oldham coaching hierarchy behind the departed Peter Smeathurst and Barrow, takes over training.

Solicitors: Wiggin & Co, Cheltenham.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Lewis ban will be held over until return

By Keith Macklin

The disciplinary committee in Leeds today, prepared to resolve a knotty international problem concerning Walls Lewis, the Australian captain, who has returned home following his short-term contract with Wakefield Trinity.

During his period with Trinity, he was sent off in the match against Leeds on January 29, for verbally abusing the referee, Peter Massey. If, as is more likely, Lewis is suspended today, there is

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General Appointments

The Times guide to career development

Get the community action habit

It's tough trying to get out of the trough of long-term unemployment. Even graduates equipped with above-average resourcefulness and the capacity to beat off boredom can easily succumb to the demoralizing routine of bed till noon and TV thereafter.

That was why, two years ago, the Manpower Services Commission set up its "Community" Programme to help those who have not been in a job for some time to rebuild the habit of work.

The Community Programme actually meets two needs. The first is to help the unemployed regain their confidence. The second is to undertake useful "community projects" from which a neighbourhood or locality can benefit.

This does not just mean cleaning up the eyesores which any self-respecting council would have dealt with years ago. Nor indeed is CP restricted to quasi-social work. One of the exciting things about the programme is the width of opportunities which it offers. Indeed, great imagination has been shown in deploying resources so as to create a range of stimulating openings.

For example, recent editions of *Graduate Post*, the MSC's newspaper for graduate job-seekers, has carried advertisements for graphic designers, photographers, computer programmers, technical writers, community education workers, and industrial archaeologists - all under the programme. These vacancies were for interesting work. (Some were part-

Thirty MSC recruits are passing 1984 in the wooded upper reaches of the Tamar Valley - at Morwellham, Devon. A century ago this was a thriving port exporting Dartmoor minerals. Schooners of up to 300 tons tied up at the quays, until decay set in at the turn of the century when the railway arrived.

Now the docks, cottages, workshops and farms have become re-created as living history: Morwellham is an industrial archaeology museum, with its own interpretive staff clad in costumes of a century ago.

The MSC staff are helping with extra projects to deepen the sense of returning to the past. Three women - one with haute couture experience - are designing and making Victorian costumes from crinolines to working gear for dummies in tableaux. An ex-miner, brought in from Redruth (no local man was available), is assisting in extending the route which visitors will travel through the copper mine. A skilled surveyor is in the team. A mason in his mid-50s, overjoyed to be working again after the collapse of his firm, is in charge a mile downstream, at the deserted hamlet of New Quay. Here unskilled MSC colleagues are learning to make safe the ruined houses lime kilns and access route to preserve the place from ruin.

Edward Fennell considers the appeal of the MSC's Community Programme for graduates, while Ann Hills (below) looks at the scheme in action

time), but of course none of them was "permanent" and the wages were modest (an average of £60 per week).

Sprungtime is likely to be a good period for recruitment of recent graduates to the Community Programme. Under its regulations 18 to 24-year-olds are eligible only if they have been unemployed for six out of the preceding nine months. Consequently, graduates from last summer are now starting to qualify. Those aged 25 and over are also eligible, providing they have been out of work for 12 of the last 15 months.

Nationwide there are 130,000 places and, apart from the South-east, they have not been hard to fill. The Government, following a recent review, has also given the programme the go-ahead for a further two years, and the evidence seems to suggest that people coming off CP are finding it easier to get full-time employment.

Apart from any other benefits the experience of work provided by CP is a definite asset when job-seeking. To be able to demonstrate specific skills and responsibilities gained in CP is always much better than a blank employment record.

Foundation course

Back on the Duke of Bedford's private drive at Morwellham, two other adult trainees are acquiring the art of handling shire horses, which draw wagonfuls of tourists. These skills are rare - they should find after leaving.

says the museum's manager Gary Emerson.

He formed the CP scheme in November 1983, "just before a temporary moratorium was called". MSC contributes salaries from £80 to £188 a week, and an extra £40 towards materials - from explosives in the mine to cloth for clothes for each worker, full or part-time.

Fint House, a Victorian listed school in Faversham, Kent is being converted by MSC workers into a centre for craftspeople, a tourist information centre and a hall for hire by the public.

At the Tank Museum, Bovington, in Dorset, nine men and women on CP include teachers and education officer. Some of them are indexing the collection and the library, and one is a photographer. The curator, Lt Col George Forty, hopes that the mu-

The sponsors of the individual projects who run the schemes on behalf of the MSC mostly tend to be local authorities and charities, although churches, clubs, and indeed local businesses could all get involved.

Trade unions have expressed reservations about the programme, and there has been opposition from other quarters. The Right Reverend David Sheppard, the Bishop of Liverpool and chairman of the MSC Area Board for Merseyside and Cheshire, has described recently how the programme in his area was launched "in the teeth of great opposition". Nonetheless, 115,000 people were engaged in early February, so it clearly has some appeal.

Indeed, it could be argued that CP is one of the positive outcomes from the recession, since it encourages local initiatives, backed by national money, and organizes schemes which benefit both participants and the community at large.

If western industrialized society truly does face the "collapse of work" in the face of automation, then new methods have to be found for engaging people in useful and satisfying activity. The Community Programme may represent the way forward, providing both a bridge into permanent jobs and a model for long-term experiments in new form of employment. If you are an unemployed graduate, then the CP in your area may well be worth following up.

seum's current expansion will enable him to keep on at least one or two of these one-year staff.

In the Scottish borders, 45 MSC Community Programme aged 18 to more than 60 are part of the Borders Burghs Archaeology Project. Evidence has been uncovered of the Great Fires of Kelso in the seventeenth century. In Jedburgh, the foundations of a friary destroyed by the English in 1545 have been revealed.

The MSC project manager is Piers Dixon, 30, an archaeology graduate. "There are few permanent jobs in the field", he says, adding that he hopes for an extension beyond the end of the year in August. The task requires continuity.

The team has put on an exhibition displaying several digs and revealing finds, and plans to produce a computerized site and monuments record for the whole region.

The year's work is costing MSC £182,000; £147,000 for wages, the rest for administration and running costs. Reports on success so far are available from Alison Macgregor, Borders Architects Group, Turret House, Kelso.

"Jobs are shifting to the suburbs" last Thursday was by Barrie Sherman.

The Times

Contributed by Edward Fennell, former editor of *Graduate Post*.

Ann Hills is a reporter on the *Times* London office.

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Austerity budget slashes Israeli defence spending

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Military spending in Israel will be cut by 10 per cent in real terms during the coming year, according to the annual budget estimates presented to the Knesset yesterday by Mr Yigal Cohen-Orgad, the Finance Minister.

The Defence Ministry's allocation will be £2,757m, and will provide for a six-month stay in southern Lebanon. If the forces remain longer, funds will have to be provided from the reserves.

At the same time, there will be a virtual freeze on the controversial land settlement schemes in the West Bank. Mr Cohen-Orgad said the emphasis will be on consolidating the 25 settlements founded in the past year.

In a desperate attempt to bring public spending and the rate of inflation under control, some 8,000 civil service jobs will vanish and government planners will increase unemployment by 2 per cent to six and a half per cent.

Israelis in higher income groups will have to pay for secondary school tuition, health insurance rates will be increased and breadwinners in the 45 per cent income tax bracket with up to three children will have to pay taxes on state grants to their children.

The Minister said after two or three years the new approach would overcome the gap in the balance of payments and restrain the three-digit annual inflation. He acknowledged more drastic measures might have obtained quicker results but he said they were dangerous.

80mph limit sought

Continued from page 1

Tyres. The present law was difficult to understand and enforce, Acpo says. One minute the driver was a learner, the next an expert.

The law should be changed to require drivers to undertake definitive programmes of training over a specific minimum number of hours, partly at night, and partly on fast dual carriage-way roads. The driving test should take at least an hour, and should be more demanding.

Drinking and driving caused 1,200 road deaths a year, a fifth of the total, and tougher measures should be introduced to reduce them, including unrestricted powers by the police to carry out tests on anyone in charge of a vehicle.



Farmer Holland to close his shirehorse stud

One of Britain's oldest shirehorse studs will be split up when farmer Mr Joe Holland (right) sells the horses next month. Mr Holland, aged 94, decided to auction the horses, which include stallions, mares-in-foal, and colts because he wants to take things easier. He started the stud in 1909.

He has already sold one of his best horses, Edingle Mascot, to an American buyer. Edingle Mascot is 18 hands three inches high and weighs about a ton-and-a-half. The other 26 will be auctioned at the Edingle Stud near Tamworth, Staffs, on March 10.

Lorries. Jacknifing in articulated vehicles was the cause of many multiple accidents on motorways and should be controlled by new construction regulations.

Foreign lorries were often substandard. There was concern about tyres, maintenance, overloading, and standards of enforcement in various EEC countries, the chief constables say.

Photographs: John Voos.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

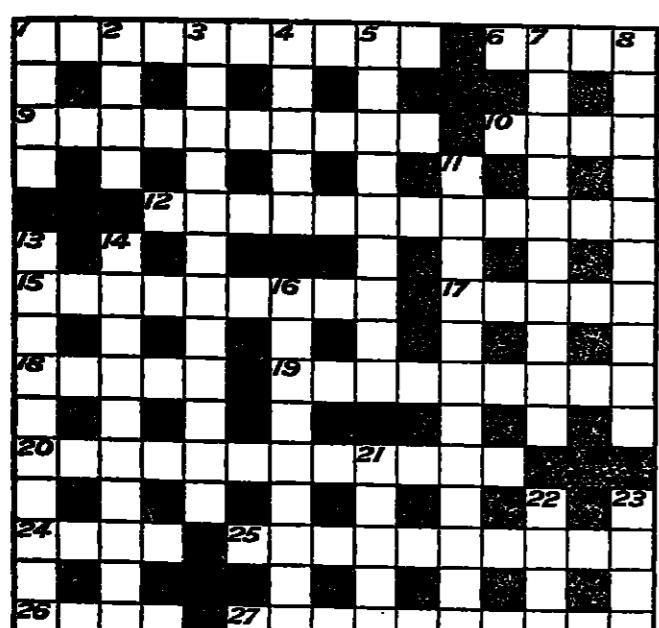
Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a Luncheon for President Pertini of Italy, 1; and later visit "The Genius of Venice", exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, 9.30.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attends a Concert to be given by the English Chamber Orchestra in Westminster Abbey to mark the fiftieth Anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar, 6.55.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,362



- ACROSS
 - 4 No deficiency on this side (5).
 - 5 Sad sotter, oddly swallow-tailed for evenings (5-4).
 - 6 Thought to be nearly perfect (4).
 - 7 Teachers excited by University speed about wildly (10).
 - 8 Small rise - aggressive worker is out (4).
 - 9 His concern is between Leviticus and Deuteronomy (12).
 - 10 Opposed to capital punishment? (9).
 - 11 Track to pass is hidden (5).
 - 12 Object of a night out (5).
 - 13 Two fellows related to ancient King (9).
 - 14 Sort of cue to manner in which names are listed (12).
 - 15 Tea volunteers of little account (4).
 - 16 Tum blind eye to as ordered (10).
 - 17 Tsar in the short term prison (4).
 - 18 Peace of mind for Violet? (10).

- DOWN
 - 1 Initially a form of bread pure and simple (4).
 - 2 Song about Land's End person (4).
 - 3 Giving voice after a look at the score (3-7).

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attend a Concert at the Royal Festival Hall to mark the Anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar, 7.20.

Princess Alexandra names a new Arun class lifeboat provided by the Beaverbrook Foundation for service at Stornoway, at Cowes, 2.30.

New exhibitions

- Four More drawings, designs and watercolours, Meadowplace Gallery, 10 Victoria Chambers, Dundee. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Tues, Sun 11 to 5 (until April 1).

Talks, lectures

- Canaids and Economic Growth in the Eighteenth Century: Durham University, Department of Economic History, 23-26 Oct Elvet, 1.45.

The Flowers o' the Forest? an historical appraisal of the Scottish soldier, by Stephen Wood: Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 7.

Art for the masses: Victorian greeting cards and their designers, by Laura Seddon: Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester, 6.30.

Music by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Concert by the Salzburg Residenti Solisten, St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.

Piano recital by Frances Eagar, Keble Hall, Northampton Street, Cambridge, 8.

Concert by L'Ecole d'Orphée, Kent College, Canterbury, Kent, 8.

General

- Class in oriental flower landscape painting, by Choi Seung-Ok, The Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester, 2.30 to 4.30.

Anniversaries

- Births: Samuel Pepys, London, 1633; George Frederick Handel, Halle, Germany, 1685; Meyer Anschel Rothschild, founder of the banking dynasty of that name, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 1743; George Frederick Watts, painter, London, 1817.
- Deaths: Sir Joshua Reynolds, first president of the Royal Academy, 1768-1792, London, 1792; John Keats, Rome, 1821; John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the United States, 1825-29, Washington, 1848; William Butterfield, architect, prominent in the Gothic revival, London, 1900; Woodrow Wilson, twenty-eighth president of the United States, 1912-20, Washington, 1924; Dame Nellie Melba, Sydney, Australia, 1931; Sir Edward Elgar, Broadheath, Worcestershire, 1934.
- Beginning (old style) of the February revolution in Russia, 1917.

Solutions of Puzzle No 16,361

DIATRIESE **SEEMEAL** **PROSPECT** **BUILL** **THEM** **MOE** **REGONE** **Y** **E** **S** **O** **C** **P** **AS** **ES** **ME** **EL** **RE** **AS** **ESTOS**

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

A Hero of Our Time, by Nikolai Lermontov, translated and annotated by Anatoly S. Zaitsev (Taylor (Virago), £1.95).
Downfall, by Maxine Hong Kingston (Viking), £2.25.
Lives and Letters, a new series: *The Pastones*, Lord Byron, *The Daughters of Karl Marx* and Harold Nicolson (Penguin, £2.50).
Men and Women, by Ivy Compton-Burnett (Allison and Busby, £2.95).
Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry by Thomas Tusser, introduced by Christopher Dyer (Oxford, £2.50).
The Second Homer, translated by Robert Fitzgerald, introduced by Geoffrey Kirk (Farrago, £2.95).

The Spy's Beside Book, by Graham and Hugh Greene (Granada, £2.95).
Yet Being Someone Else, by laurens van Post (Penguin, £2.95). PH

Nature notes

Lapwings are back on the fields where they will nest, and the males begin their display flight. They climb rapidly on rounded wings, crying "peew-peew", pause in the air, then tumble wildly back to earth, calling again. They flash as they do so. Skylarks are often found in the same fields as lapwings: they are singing again, soaring high in the sky. A few blackbirds have begun to sing softly, and many of the males are courting; they approach a female with their heads held high, the ground and their rump feathers lifted, and their song stretched forward with bulging eyes.

Coots are chasing their rivals on the grassy sides of large ponds; they go very fast, half-flying, half-running, with their sharp white beak directed at their enemy's tail. Afterwards they ride on the water, their black wings arched. They sometimes fight to the death - a rare event in most other species.

More early spring flowers are opening in green-yellow seals of spring, like primroses. The chalk down (its flowers have no actual petals); lesser periwinkle with its five purple, wedge-shaped petals and the golden discs of colts'-foots on dusty roadsides.

Scots pine are repairing their damage in winter. The chalk down (its flowers have no actual petals); lesser periwinkle with its five purple, wedge-shaped petals and the golden discs of colts'-foots on dusty roadsides.

North: A534: Sewer laying at Crews Road, Winterley, Sandbach, Cheshire; single-line traffic, controlled by traffic lights. A6: Sewer replacement at Kirkland, Kendal, Cumbria. A628: Improvement work at Newby Lane, Donbridge at Thirlwall, South Yorkshire; single-line traffic.

Scotland: A7: Repairs to surface road and widening south of Gorebridge, Midlothian; two sets of single-line traffic controlled by lights. A73: Roadworks at Ferguslie, Paisley, Renfrewshire; outside lane closed both carriageways. A82: Roadworks two and a quarter miles south of Luss, and four miles north of Tarbet, Dunbartonshire; one lane only.

Information supplied by the AA.

The pound

Bank	Bank	Bank
Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia S	1.61	1.55
Austria Sch	28.60	27.00
Belgium Fr	85.00	81.00
Canada \$	1.87	1.80
Denmark Kr	14.75	14.95
Finland Mkk	8.69	8.29
France Fr	12.34	11.34
Germany DM	4.02	3.34
Greece Dr	166.00	156.00
Hongkong S	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt	1,260.00	1,254.00
Italy Lira	2,465.00	2,365.00
Japan Yen	354.00	338.00
Netherlands Gld	4.54	4.32
Norway Kr	11.56	10.95
Portugal Esc	260.00	190.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	226.00	219.00
Sweden Kr	12.02	11.42
Switzerland Fr	3.31	3.14
USA \$	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Duk	312.00	202.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Retail Price Index: 54.2.

London: The FT Index closed down 2.9 at 816.4.

National Day

Guyana is the former British colony in South America, today celebrates its National Day to mark its establishment as a republic within the Commonwealth on February 23, 1970. Since its independence in May, 1966, the government has been run by Mr Forbes Burnham, first as Prime Minister and since 1980 as Executive President. Guyana has a population of some 793,000, of whom about half are of African descent. The economy is based almost entirely on the production of sugar, bauxite and rice.

Weather forecast

A depression over N France will move slowly SW as a frontal trough approaches NW Scotland from the Atlantic.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central England, East Anglia, Wales: Rather cloudy, showers, wintry in places; wind NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

SW, central S England, Midlands (W), Channel Islands, Wales: Rather cloudy, scattered showers, some sunny intervals; wind NE, moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (45 to 46F).

NW, Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8 to 10C (45 to 46F).

Northeast: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8 to 10C (45 to 46F).

Wales: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8 to 10C (45 to 46F).

Scotland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8 to 10C (45 to 46F).

Information supplied by the AA.

St Polycarp's Day

Today is the Feast of Saint Polycarp, who was a leading figure in the Church in the middle of the second century. Little is known of his long life, c69-153. As bishop of Smyrna he was prominent as an opponent of the heresy of Gnosticism. During a pagan riot in that city he was imprisoned, and following his refusal to recant his Christian beliefs, he was burnt to death.

Lighting-up time

London: 5.59 pm to 6.28 am
 Bristol: 6.09 pm to 6.38 am
 Edinburgh: 6.02 pm to 6.49 am
 Manchester: 6.04 pm to 6.51 am
 Plymouth: 6.22 pm to 6.48 am

Yesterday

Temperature at midday yesterday: c. cloud, 1; sun, 2; rain, 3; snow, 4; thunderstorms, 5; gale, 6; strong wind, 7; very strong wind, 8; gale, 9; storm, 10; hurricane, 11.

High tides

TODAY

AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.11	6.45	6.53
Aberdeen	11.02	11.22	11.34
Belfast	5.34	5.52	5.54
Cardiff	11.27	11.52	11.54
Dover	10.13	10.43	10.45
Falmouth	9.43	9.57	9.59
Glasgow	5.25	5.45	5.47
Harwich	4.05	4.25	4.27
Hull	10.51	10.71	10.73
Imber	10.27	10.47	10.49
Jersey	7.10	7.35	7.37
Liverpool	2.32	2.50	2.52
Lowestoft	4.12	4.25	4.27
Margate	1.13	1.33	1.35
Newhaven	9.49	9.67	